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AND
THE TRANSVAAL

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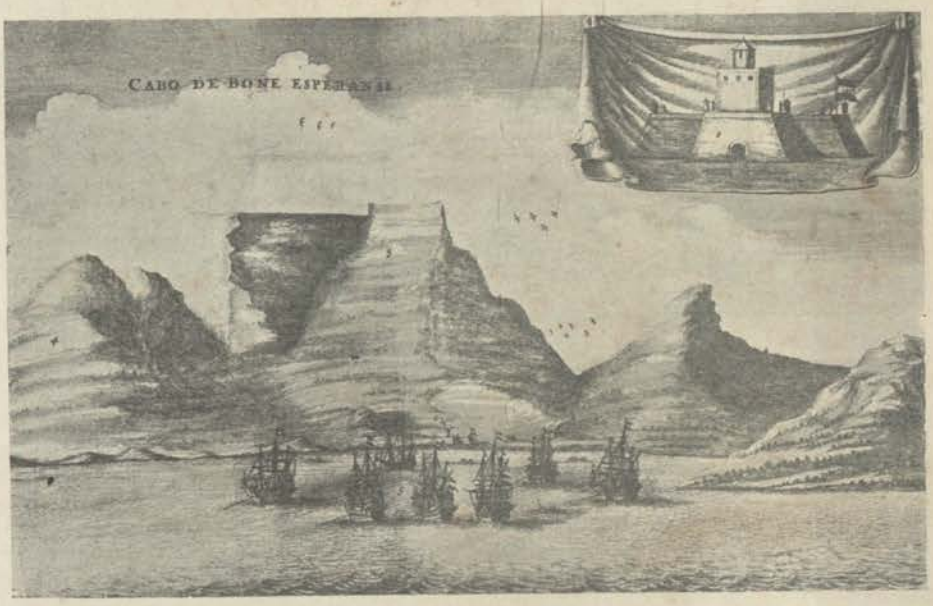
CALENDAR OF DATES.

Cape Colony taken by the British under Admiral Elphinstone and General Clarke	Sept. 6, 1795.
Cape Colony restored to the Dutch by the Peace of Amiens	March 25, 1802.
Cape Colony retaken by Sir D. Baird and Sir H. Popham	Jan. 9, 1806.
Cape Colony finally ceded to Great Britain	Aug. 13, 1814.
The Dutch Republic, Natalia, put down by the British	May 12, 1842.
Engagement at Durban. British besieged for weeks by Boers who, however, retired when reinforcements arrived	June 24, 1842.
Natal annexed to British possessions	Aug. 8, 1843.
Battle of Zoraartkop. Defeat of the Boers by a force under Colonel Richardson	1844.
Battle of Boomplaats. Defeat and flight of the Boers in the Orange Free State	Aug. 28, 1848.
Transvaal Republic founded by the Boers after several years of conflict with the Natives	1848.
Orange Free State declared a British Colony	Sept. 8, 1848.
Orange Free State abandoned to the Dutch	1854.
Basutos become British Subjects	1868.
Annexation of the Transvaal by Sir T. Shepstone—after the country had been reduced to a state of anarchy by misgovernment	April 12, 1877.
The Transvaal declared a Crown Colony	Dec., 1879.
The Boers after many protests against British rule seized Heidelberg and established the South African Republic with Paul Kruger as President	Dec. 17, 1880.
A party of Boers treacherously surrounded at Bronkhorst Spruit about 250 of the 94th Regiment who, after losing in the fight nearly all their officers and men, surrendered	Dec. 20, 1880.
Potchefstroom seized by the Boers who retired when shelled; Colonel Bellairs besieged in it	Dec. 27, 1880.
Captain J. M. Elliot treacherously murdered when fording the Vaal	Dec. 29, 1880.
The South African Republic proclaimed by Kruger, Joubert, and Pretorius	Dec. 30, 1880.
Reinforcements sent from Great Britain	Dec., 1880 and Jan., 1881.
Sir George P. Colley took command of our troops in the war	Jan., 1881.
Sir George Colley's attack on Laing's Nek repulsed with heavy loss—Col. Deane and Majors Poole and Hingiston killed	Jan. 28, 1881.
Severe engagement on the Ingogo River: British repulsed with heavy loss after being twelve hours under fire	Feb. 8, 1881.
Sir Evelyn Wood arrived with reinforcements and joined Colley	Feb. 17, 1881.
Orange Free State, proclaimed neutrality	Feb. 22, 1881.
Sir George Colley marched with 600 in the night to Majuba Hill where, after a desperate conflict, the British were routed. Sir George Colley killed. British loss, three officers and eighty-two men, many wounded and 122 taken prisoners	Feb. 26-27, 1881.
Sir F. (now Lord) Roberts sent out	Feb. 28, 1881.
Armistice proposed by the Boers; Accepted from March 6—14; Extended March 14; Boers agreed to British terms March 21; Peace proclaimed	March 24, 1881.
Potchefstroom surrendered with honours of war in ignorance of the armistice, March 21; given up as occupied by mistake	April, 1881.
Commissioners appointed to carry out the Treaty of Peace	April 5, 1881.
Convention agreed to, ceding all the territory to the Transvaal subject to the Suzerainty of the Queen, and providing a British Resident in Pretoria	Aug. 8, 1881.
Convention ratified	Oct. 25, 1881.
Evacuation of the Transvaal by British Troops began	Nov. 18, 1881.
After a Boer deputation had been received in London, a new Convention was signed — the Transvaal to be recognised as the South African Republic under British suzerainty	Feb. 27, 1884.
Boer filibusters seize and annex Montsioa's land in Bechuanaland; Sanctioned by proclamation; Withdrawn on remonstrance	Sept. and Oct. 1884.
Ultimatum by Sir H. Robinson requiring protection of frontiers	Oct. 14, 1884.
British subjects exempted from military service by the Transvaal Government	June 24, 1894.
Protest by the British Government against closing the Vaal Drifts as contrary to the Convention—November 3—Agreed to	Nov. 8, 1894.
The National Union (Outlanders) in Johannesburg issued a proclamation	Dec. 26, 1895.
Dr. Jameson having received an appeal for help from the Outlanders in Johannesburg, crossed the frontier with a force from Pitsani Pitlogo	Dec. 29, 1895.
Colonel Grey and others started for Mafeking with about 250 volunteers of the British South Africa Company's troops	Dec. 30, 1895.
Sir Hercules Robinson telegraphed to Dr. Jameson to retire	Dec. 30, 1895.
Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Hercules Robinson intervened to stop hostilities	Dec. 31, 1895.
Dr. Jameson's party outnumbered and without resources, defeated by the Boers near Krugersdorp	Jan. 1, 1896.
Dr. Jameson surrendered after another fight at Vlakfontein	Jan. 2, 1896.
Johannesburg surrendered unconditionally on the advice of the British Government	Jan. 2, 1896.
Dr. Jameson and other prisoners handed over to Sir Hercules Robinson	Jan. 7, 1898.
Petition to the Queen, signed by 21,000 Outlanders praying for redress of grievances	May 24, 1899.
Conference at Bloemfontein between Sir A. Milner and President—May 30; terminated without any agreement being arrived at	June 6, 1899.
British Despatch to the Transvaal setting forth demands for immediate acceptance, Sept. 8; Unsatisfactory reply	Sept. 16, 1899.
Troops despatched to Natal	Sept. and Oct., 1899.
Insulting Boer Ultimatum, making war inevitable	Oct. 9, 1899.



THE CAPE IN 1670.
With a View of the Dutch Fleet.

From an Old Print.

The Story of South Africa.

By JOHN LEYLAND.

I.

The Dutch at the Cape.

To understand the causes that have brought about the latest breach with the Boer, the events that are now in progress, and the problem that lies before the Briton in South Africa, it is necessary first to approach our enemy historically. We must endeavour to see what manner of man is this who disputes our paramountcy, and who cherishes the daring idea of creating a Dutch Boer South Africa. "The moment has arrived," says Lord Salisbury, "for deciding whether the future of South Africa is to be a growing and increasing Dutch supremacy, or a safe, perfectly established supremacy of the English people"—a supremacy which shall secure for all white men equal rights and equal privileges, and shall provide a just and enlightened government for the subject races. Not since we waged our long wars with the French has any question so momentous been forced upon us.

Now the Boer, wrapping his cloak of self-satisfied seclusion about him, ignorant, prejudiced, stationary, or even retrograde, is an anomaly in this century or in any century of progress. His advocates represent his life as one of idyllic simplicity. He is endowed with patriarchal virtues, a modern Abraham, rich in flocks and

herds, and asking only to be allowed to dwell in peace beneath his own vine and fig-tree. In reality he has an unfriendly eye for the progress imposed by civilisation; he likes to live for himself alone, as far from his neighbours as may be, where taxes and restraints afflict him as little as possible, and where he is free to regard the natives as the good gifts of a benign Providence destined to be the servants of his will and pleasure.

His ancestors, the Dutch, who commenced the European settlement at the Cape, were men of other mould. They were hardy seafarers and shrewd traffickers, men not scrupulous in their methods, as the savage massacre of our countrymen at Amboyna showed, but men of activity and character, well trained for fighting, in their great struggle with the English near home and the Portuguese in the Southern Seas. It would take too long to relate the history of the Dutch in South Africa, and we must, therefore, hasten forward to the time when they finally came under English sway; for it was not until then that there was grafted into the being of the Cape Dutchman the blind and almost ineradicable aversion to British rule which led to the great "Trek," and which planted the seeds of many of the sores of South Africa, and covered the country with the mists of race prejudice.

It was the Portuguese Bartholomeu Diaz, who discovered the Cape in 1486, and that other great Portuguese, Vasco da Gama, who rounded it on his famous pioneer voyage to India. Drake sighted it as he returned from his celebrated voyage round the world, and the English flag was first seen there in 1591. But, though English ships were often in Table Bay, it was reserved for Jan van Riebeck, of the Dutch East India Company, to make the first European settlement, in 1652, though the colony really dates from five years later, when burghers received plots of land at Rondebosch, and started life as agriculturists, being, in fact, the original Boers, or tillers of the soil, and cattle-breeders. Their numbers increased and they came into conflict with the pastoral Hottentots, who began to swoop down unawares and carry off their daughters and cattle. The curse of slavery was introduced into South Africa, and was long an open sore, which has left its mark in the land. Simon van der Stel, one of

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO. From an Old Print.
The first English occupation in 1796.

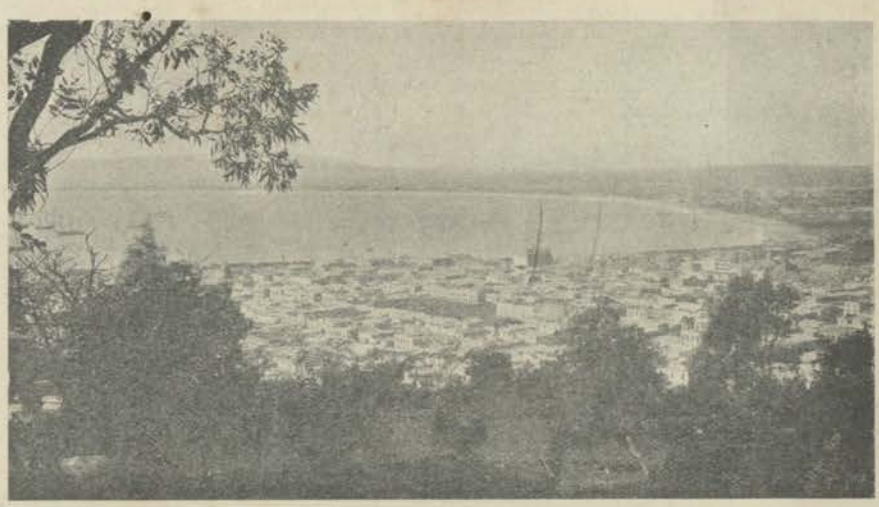


Photo THE CAPE IN 1899. G. W. Wilson, Aberdeen.
Cape Town and Table Bay from Signal Hill.

the greatest of Dutch governors, extended the agriculture of the colony by forming the settlement at Stellenbosch, the place named in his honour; other settlements were made at Drakenstein in the valley of the Berg River, and gradually the Dutchmen spread.

A larger measure of prosperity came when, after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, many skilled French workmen arrived with their families, and ultimately mingled with the Dutch population. They had not the robustness of the Boer or they would have resisted the iron persecution to which they were subjected. A system of harsh repression was practised that crushed every spark of national spirit and freedom out of them, and, when Le Vaillant visited the Cape a hundred years after the arrival of the refugees, he could find only one old

Photo A BUSY SCENE IN CAPE TOWN. "Navy and Army.
Devil's Peak and Table Mountain in the background.

man who could speak, and that imperfectly, his fathers' tongue. It is, in fact, foreign to the Boer mind to tolerate anything outside the sphere of his narrow comprehension. He will fight sturdily for his own liberty, but he will never willingly grant liberty to others whose views are not his own.

The Dutch dominion at the Cape lasted 143 years after the landing of Van Riebeck, discontent growing apace among many of the settlers and breaking into absolute revolt. It was in 1795 that Admiral Elphinstone and General Craig forced the surrender of the colony to Great Britain, but it was restored to the Batavian Republic at the Peace of Amiens, only to be captured again by Sir David Baird in 1806, since which time it has continued in our hands.

The narrow, restrictive system of the Dutch Company was irksome to many of the farmer colonists, and even in the time of Van Riebeck there were men who trekked away to taste the unfettered freedom of the veldt. The country was teeming with game—antelopes of many kinds, lions, elephants, rhinoceroses, and hippopotami — and rifle and plough opened up new expanses of country after the rough and ready fashion of the voortrekking Boer But in those times, much as the peasant farmer detested taxes and inquisitions, he looked upon the Cape authorities as the "paramount power," and had little thought of political expansion. The country at first repelled, and then tempted exploration. The wonderful series of terraces by which the land rises from the coast to the Great Karroo, and again to the lofty central range, seemed forbidding. But, when the romantic mountain gorges, known as "kloofs," were explored by the side of foaming cataracts in the wet season, or the bare beds of torrents in the dry, and when the vast plain of the karroo was reached, the wandering Boer tasted a new life, and from father to son, by change of character, he grew into another man. It became part of his nature to detest the restraints of settled society and the petty vexations it imposed, to love the wild life of the open veldt where the game was in plenty, and to shun the immediate neighbourhood of his kind.

The lumbering tent-waggon, drawn by its long team of oxen, became the home of the Trek Boer. He asked only to be left alone, and went out like a new patriarch with flocks and

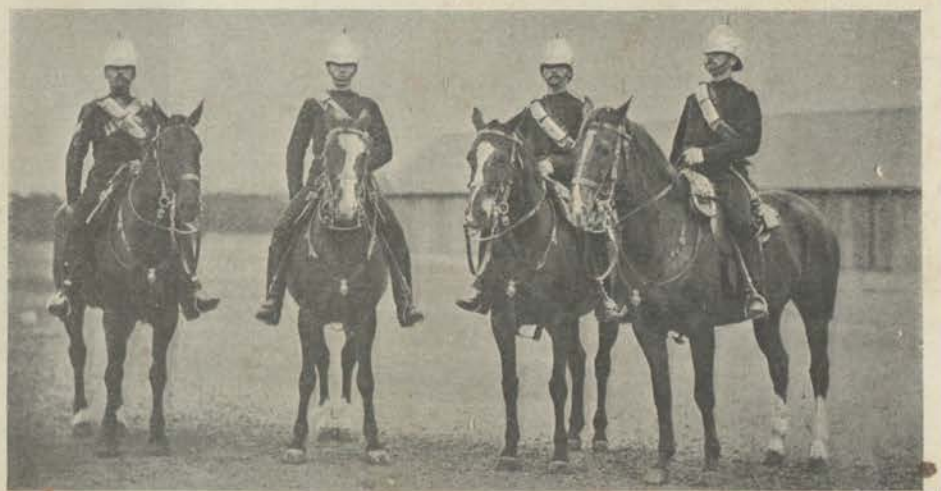


Photo CAPE MOUNTED RIFLEMEN. Gregory

The only permanent Military Force in Cape Colony.

herds, from old pastures to new. He would outspan by some river course or shallow "vlei," recruited by recent rains, forming a kraal with bush or acacia swathes or branches of wait-a-bit thorn for his sheep and goats. The camp fire was his hearth, the unchanging sky or the flapping canvas of the waggon his roof, and the open veldt the floor of his dwelling. With a huge round hat to shadow his tanned countenance and long, straggling, straw-coloured beard, a woollen shirt, well open at the throat, a rough coat of frieze, and leather *veldt-broeks* to cover his nether limbs, he was a strange and picturesque figure. It was his pleasure to lie smoking on his back, watching

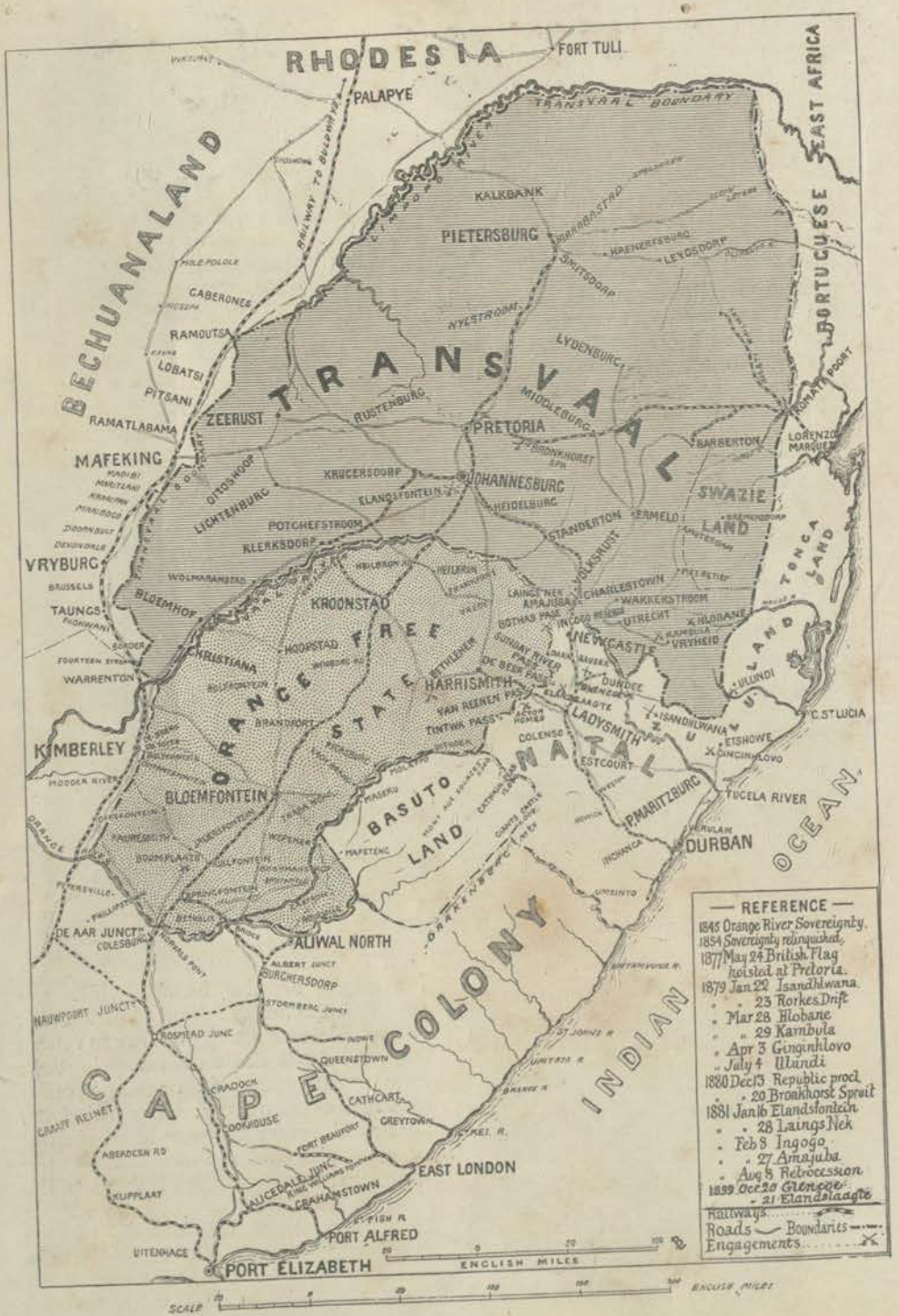
Photo G. W. Wilson
BLACK, BUT COMELY?
A Cape Kaffir Belle.

Photo A STEP IN CIVILISATION. G. W. Wilson
A Cape Boy on the Veldt.

Photo G. W. Wilson.
SAVAGE SOUTH AFRICA.
A Cape Colony Kaffir.

the eagle or the hawk, while the yelling imps, his children, played about the wheels of his waggons, or to return from the day's chase with a springbok, or a great gemsbok, or some other antelope as his quarry. The waistless, blue-eyed womenkind would sit sewing or gossiping in the shadow of the waggons, or washing clothes in the river or the shallow pool; and the black slave-boys would lazily watch the cattle, goats, and sheep on the veldt.

Hunting, and brushes with Hottentots, Bushmen, and Kaffirs, often attended by bloodshed, were the excitements of the wandering Boer. He was not cut off from his more settled



THE BOER REPUBLICS AND THEIR NEIGHBOURS.
(Reproduced from "Navy and Army Illustrated.")

kindred, for at the need of a new gun for his growing son, more powder and shot, fabrics for clothing, or provisions the wilderness did not afford, he would trek to the nearest settlement, or even to Kaapstad, as he called Cape Town, with a load of ivory or feathers. And there were times when he went into civilisation, too, for the *Nachtmaal* or communion, like the man of religion he was, ever ready with a text drawn from the well-thumbed

Photo CHANGING TEAMS. G. W. Wilson.
An incident of South African Travel.

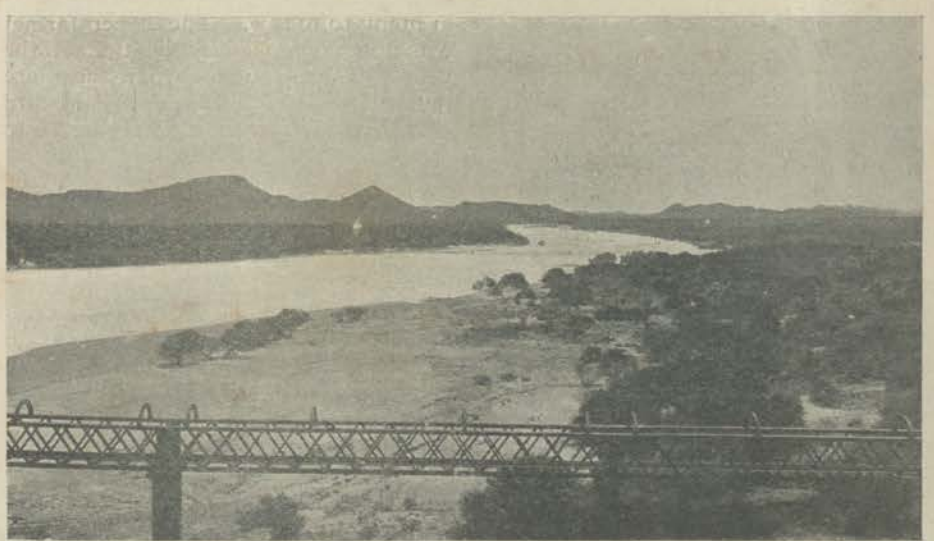


Photo ON THE FREE STATE BORDER. G. W. Wilson.
The Orange River from Norval's Pont.

Bible brought by his grandfather, perhaps, from Holland, and reserved in the locker in his waggon. But the greater taste of the Trek Boers was to journey further afield, in their search for game or pasture, and some of them became expert huntsmen in the region of the Orange River.

This is no fancy picture of the old Trek Boer, for still a few men like him exist on the vast plains of Bushman Land beyond the great Central range. They are sadly degenerate, it is true. Their flocks and herds have dwindled, their draught oxen may be few, and their waggons broken and shaky; and there will be more of vacancy and listlessness in their look than would have been seen in the men who were pioneers. But the aspect of the Trek Boer, and of his *vrouw* and belongings, has little changed since the time of the men who first broke loose from the vexation of monopolies and taxes.

They had this merit, that they were pioneers. Where they had gone others might follow. They carried into the Cape Colony, when they periodically trekked into the towns, the knowledge of the great land they had explored. Into the ears of eager youths they poured many strange tales of fighting deeds with savage native hordes, and of the vast richness of the hunter's quarry, and they planted the longing in many to follow. The sober farmer was not less moved by the tale of the vast grazing grounds, where now are myriads of sheep and cattle; he heard of the arid karroo blossoming into richness at the first fall of rain; he was tempted, like his boy, by the tale of the immense herds of game, and of the triumphs that awaited his *roer*, as he called his gun. Thus was prepared the ground for the remarkable exodus from Cape Colony that followed. Many eager youths went in the steps of the older Trek Boers of the veldt, and the great country became more and more known. There were many men among the Dutch colonists who foresaw the possibilities of the inland regions. That there were natives who might object to the shooting of game, or whose cupidity might be aroused by the sight of fat oxen and waggons well stored, did not affect them very greatly. They trusted to their alertness and their good firearms, and their dealings with Hottentots had taught them a sharp and short way with objectors.

Photo Edwardes.

ALL IN THEIR BEST.
Native Servants, Cape Colony.

Photo Edwardes.

IN REVIEW ORDER.
Kaffir Chief's Idea of Full Dress.

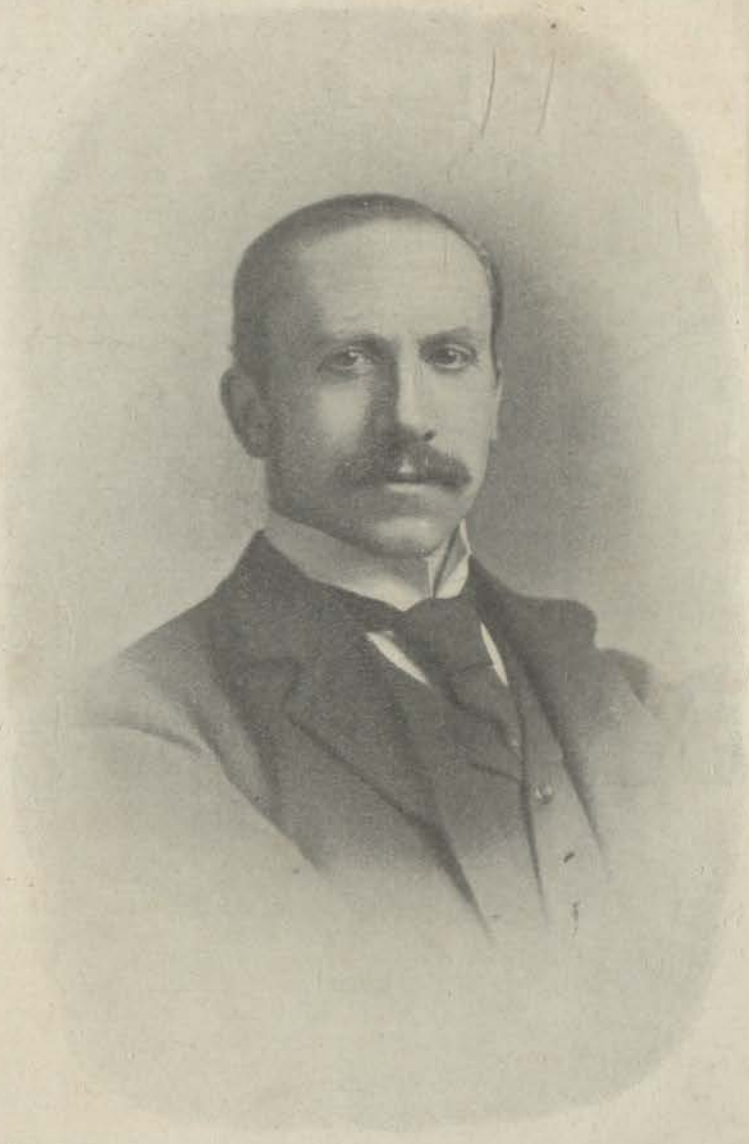


Photo Elliott and Fry.

SIR ALFRED MILNER, GOVERNOR OF THE CAPE AND HIGH COMMISSIONER.
Author of the famous Despatch.

II.

The Root of the Quarrel.

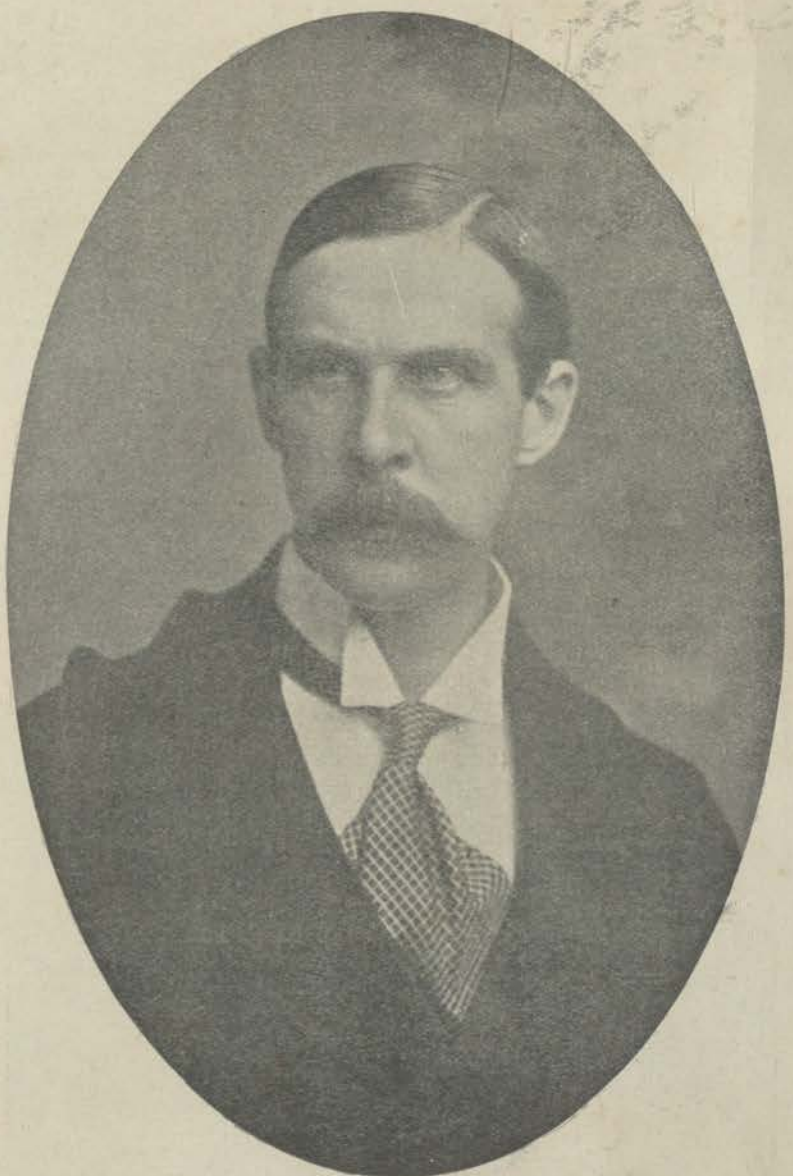
The spirit that made the old Trek Boer a wanderer, though it appeals by its picturesqueness to the imagination, was not an admirable spirit. It was a revolt against the advances of civilised life, a retrogression towards the conditions of primitive societies, an approach to the freedom of savagery. The desire to break the bonds set up by the narrow rules of the Dutch Company at the Cape only affected comparatively a few. The substantial body of farmers stayed at home, and still, in the old settlements, remain some of the high-roofed, curiously gabled houses in which they comfortably dwelt. But there was in very many of themthat latent spirit of the Trek Boer. It only needed the coming of the Englishman, and the further advance of ordered society, to bring out the spirit of opposition, to raise hostility, and at length to send a great host of farmers to seek new fortunes in the veldt, and there in the end to create the two Dutch Republics of South Africa.

Photo Lum'ey.
RELIEVING SENTRIES.
Cape Mounted Riflemen in Camp.

Photo "Navy and Army."
ON PATROL DUTY.
Cape Police from Kimberley.

Photo Haucox.
IN CAMP NEAR KIMBERLEY.
With the Diamond Fields Horse.

There was something excellent in the sturdy qualities of the Cape Dutch. They were ignorant, bigoted, hard in their dealings, suspicious, and unprogressive ; but they were honest in the main, though their code was low, and they served equally well as commandants and field-cornets, or as deacons and elders in the churches. They



MR. CONYNGHAM GREENE.
Late British Agent at Pretoria.

Photo A STREET IN KIMBERLEY. G. W. Wilson.
The Centre of the Diamond Mining Industry.

never conquered the slovenliness of their native slave servants, and slowly the extreme neatness and preciseness of the old Dutch life at home was impaired, and on the rough borders, where the Boer waged his war with the savage, it vanished altogether. The system of the Dutch officials had crushed many good qualities out of the man. He thought it no wrong to lie as to the number of his live-stock when the tax collector came round, and he was rather proud of imposing upon a neighbour in a bargain. During the first British occupation there was a good deal of trouble. The Boer regarded the Englishman as an hereditary enemy; when he found him exercising authority and compelling obedience, he conceived a fierce detestation of the invader, and, in his bucolic tongue, uttered furious imprecations against the *verdoemed uitlander* whom he was as ready, as President Kruger is now (an he could!), to drive into the sea. The upshot of the resistance, which at first had no great force, was an insurrection in the district of Graaff-Reinet, followed by fines and arrests, but no men suffered death.

Photo ON THE VAAL RIVER. Temple.
In the Neighbourhood of Kimberley.

Photo "Navy and Army."

A LIKELY SCOUT.
Trooper, Cape Mounted Riflemen.

There were wars with the Kaffirs in 1799 and 1812, and the Cape became decisively ours under the Convention of 1814. Our administration and government were of enlightened character, and a condition of internal peace was imposed upon the colony. The Earl of Caledon and Sir John

Photo "Navy and Army."

IN MID STREAM.
Waggon crossing an African River.

Photo PORT ELIZABETH. G. W. Wilson.
Where a part of the Army Corps will be landed.

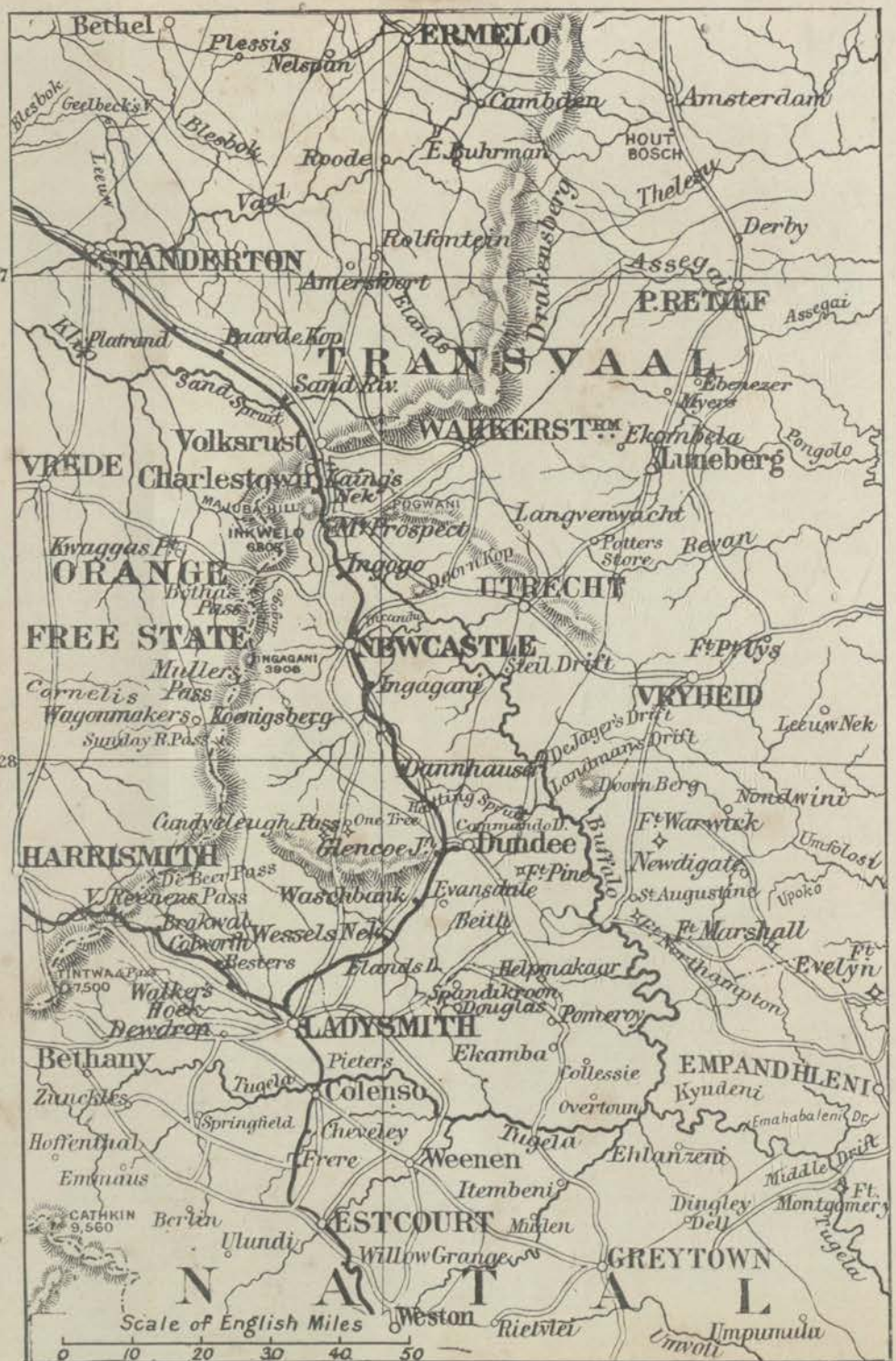
Cradock, successive Governors, were men of high character, and all promised well for the future of South Africa, save for the native peril which was a continual threat to the farmers of the border region. There still live in Cape Colony the memories of those grim raids at night, when the black hordes would sweep down, murder the farmers and their sons, carry off their women to worse than death, drive away their cattle, sheep, and goats, and give their homesteads to the flames. This common peril often found the Englishman and the Dutchman fighting shoulder to shoulder.

So far all was well; but, when the last hope was extinguished that Holland would ever again hold the Cape, when the missionaries began to preach the equality of races in the spirit which had prompted the Congress of Vienna to pronounce the slave trade "an odious traffic," and when the apparatus of our government was extended, the mutter of disaffection was heard afresh, and the smouldering fire broke out, in 1815, in the rebellion of Schlachter's Nek. Frederik Bezuidenhout, who lived where Glen Lynden now is, was charged with ill-treating a black servant, and, being accustomed to regard all blacks as mere baboons, he refused to answer the summons, and when a party of Hottentot soldiers were sent to arrest him, he refused to surrender, fortified himself in a cavern, and was shot dead. His brother and others

Photo VOLUNTEERING AT PORT ELIZABETH. Rooney
A Church Parade.

Photo Elliott and Fry.

HON. SIR W. F. HELY-HUTCHINSON, G.C.M.G.
Governor of Natal.



STRATEGIC POINTS: LADYSMITH AND NEWCASTLE.
(Reproduced by permission from Bacon's War Map.)

Photo Edwardes.

A WINNING SMILE!
A Typical Zulu Girl.

swore vengeance, declared they would never rest until the Hottentot regiment was driven from the frontier, and a conspiracy began. It was a failure, being discovered, but Jan Bezuidenhout was a man like his old father, and stood at bay, helped by his wife and little son, and met the same fate. Lord Charles Somerset resolved to give the disaffected a lesson, and, upon condemnation, five of the rebels were hanged in the presence of their companions. It was an event that profoundly impressed the Boers, not with the idea of subjection, as would have been the case with a race less stubborn, but with the spirit of rebellion, and implanted in many of them an implacable hatred of the conqueror. It was but a smouldering hatred, however, for the Kaffir power of the chief Ndlambe, beyond the Fish River, inspired by the fanatical strength of the zealot Makama, threatened to grow into a strong native confederacy, and called for all the energies of the burghers. At length, in the Fifth Kaffir War, ending in 1819, the power of the old chief was completely broken, and peace was temporarily secured.

Things were, however, rapidly ripening for a breach between the two white races. The Dutch had lost their monopoly, and English colonists began to pour in. Nearly 5,000 of them settled in the colony between March, 1820, and May, 1821, and they soon spread throughout the settlements. They gave new importance to Grahamstown and Port Elizabeth, then mere villages, and many other parts of the colony were improved and developed. The English language went with them, and was a fruitful source of race animosity, for the burghers loved their mixed tongue, their "Babylonish jargon," as it has been called, and bitterly resented the making of English the legal language for official documents and law proceedings in 1825 and 1828. Sir Sidney Shippard has described the language used by the Boers in these days, as "a nondescript mixture of Dutch, French, and divers other tongues, forming a sort of bucolic dialect peculiar to themselves, with a ludicrously limited and insufficient vocabulary, hardly intelligible in Holland itself, devoid of literature, incapable of growth, save by the admixture of pigeon-English, and in itself an insurmountable barrier against intellectual progress, expansion, or enlightenment of any kind." What is certain is that the old burghers, whose fathers had ruthlessly stamped out every vestige of French as an independent tongue, furiously resented the official sanction of English, though it left them free to use what language they pleased at home.

But this was not the only, nor the chief, cause of burgher discontent. They viewed every step of our progress with suspicion, and they never were content to be ruled. It was with exceeding bitterness that they saw our system of law introduced in 1828, they

Photo G. W. Wilson.

A FINGO.
From the North-east of Cape Colony

AMONG THE PONDOES.

were greatly incensed when the Cape Government assumed some of the duties previously performed by the burgher senate, and their resentment was incensed to the bursting point by our emancipation of the Cape slaves in 1834. Without contending that our administration was always wise, and without thinking it necessary to defend the missionaries from some of the charges brought against them, it is impossible to say that the Dutch system of indenture and the general treatment of natives by the Boers, with a liberal use of the *sjambok*, was warrantable or in consonance with Christian principles. The missionaries had, for good or ill, constituted themselves the champions of the black population, and there will not remain upon the mind of any Englishman the impression that the step of emancipation which we took in 1834 was other than a measure of enlightenment and progress.

But it was, nevertheless, the last straw on the burgher's back, and still the Cape Dutch speak of it as the cause of the great exodus. They complained of the really severe losses

Photo "Navy and Army.

BASUTOS AND THEIR HUTS.
The native neighbours of the Orange Free State.

Photo "Navy and Army.

A REAL POTENTATE
The King of the Basutos.

Photo "Navy and Army."

IN BASUTOLAND.
A Group of Natives.

they sustained by the freeing of their slaves; they claimed compensation for much misery that was necessarily imposed upon them; they had no comprehension of the enlightened purposes of that good Governor, Sir Benjamin D'Urban; it was a standing grievance to them that the Hottentots were made free to wander, and they charged us with indifference to their interests in our frontier dealings with the Kaffirs.

It had evidently become impossible for the two white races to live together. many excellent qualities of citizenship, who might have welded themselves into our state, and created a united power, impelled by ineradicable suspicion, unwilling to wear the wholesome yoke of settled society, fretting against abuses which they should have worked to cure, decided to go out into the wilderness. Let us not do them injustice. No man can doubt that we have conferred inestimable advantages on South Africa, and when the present racial struggle is ended, shall be in a position to confer

Photo IN PONDOLAND. Navy and Army."
Iron Bridge at Umtata.

This, at least, is true of a large number of the burghers, though many of more settled temperament did not, of course, share the agitation. These causes of discontent and the growing ferment among the Bantu tribes outside the colony, who were engaged in wars of extermination among themselves, and the practical hardships suffered by the burghers on the outer fringe, made the years 1835 and 1836 dark in the annals of Cape Colony. A race of men in whom were many more. But, in all progress, some must suffer, and those are the sufferers who do not enter into the life of the communities amid which they live. This was the lot of the voortrekking Boer. Wrapping about him a cloak of racial hatred, weary of British rule—which the Boer still looks at with the eyes of sixty years ago—he carried with him all his good qualities, all his prejudice and ignorance, and all his want of vision into the future, out into the veldt.

Photo

THE SPEAKER'S CHAIR
House of Assembly, Cape Town

Edwardes

Photo "Navy and Army.

BORN TO THE SADDLE.
A Natal Carabineer.

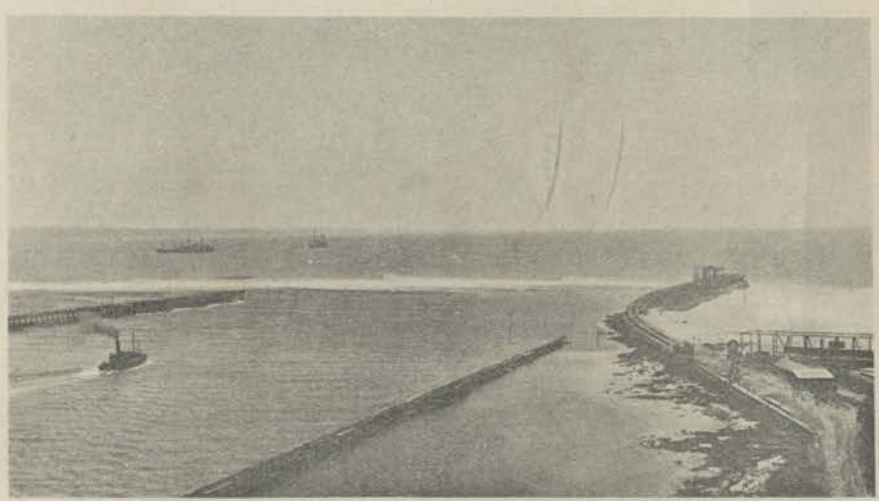


Photo "Navy and Army.

THE PORT OF NATAL.
The Durban Bar and Breakwaters.

III.

The Great Trek and "Dingaan's Daag."

The history of the Great Trek of the Boers is one of surpassing interest, and might have been drawn from the pages of romance. It is impossible not to feel genuine admiration for the men and women who made themselves the pioneers, by trekking away from the colony of their birth to carve out new homes for themselves. It is a moving story of growing pathos, filled with suffering, stained with blood, and breathing heroism—this of the trekking Boers To gain this freedom they had sacrificed much, and they did it to avoid the trammels, the changes, and the worries of progressing civilisation. Their narrow experience suggested no other escape than the path of the patriarchs. Their ideas were moulded on the records of the Bible, and they regarded every innovation of the larger life as a criminal and threatening departure from the old and simple way. In their outward progress they fought, laboured, and were hungry often; they encountered the native and braved the elements; many of them laid their bones, worn out on the veldt, ere they reached that earthly land of promise where they should know no more the hated British rule. It seems magnificent and heroic, and it is; but it is the heroism of the visionary, of the man who looks within; who knows nothing of the world and the men without, of the man inspired by a selfish pride of independence, that fills him with contempt for those he avoids.

The real *Voortrekkers*—the actual pioneers—were a party numbering ninety-eight men, women, and children, who tramped a long journey to Zoutpansberg, and thence to Delagoa Bay, were rescued from the fever-stricken land and carried to Natal, and of whom not a single man survived. Sir Benjamin D'Urban and the Colonial authorities took alarm, and would have checked the burgher outflow, but, according to Lieutenant-Governor Stokenstrom, no writ of *ne exeat regno* could avail. Great preparations were made in the winter of 1836, and by the middle of the next year over a thousand Boer waggons had been dragged by oxen to the land where the Orange Free State now is, between the Caledon and the Vaal. There were vicissitudes and tragedies in that long journey of the great trains of waggons, slowly labouring along, and the Trek Boer, who has been described, may stand for the companions and followers of Hendrik Potgieter, if

Photo THE DURBAN LIGHTHOUSE. Edwardes.
Standing on the celebrated "Bluff."

we add the fire of the enthusiast and the energy of the pioneer.

The trekkers had escaped from the tyranny, as they conceived it, of the British only to encounter the fury of trained hordes of Matabele and Zulus. The whole country was in a state of violent disturbance owing to the intestine feuds of the Bantu tribes. Chaka, the blood-spiller, had created the Zulu confederacy, had carried on the work of Dingiswayo in forming a disciplined army, and had set before himself the task of exterminating the tribes in his way. Hordes of fugitives who escaped destruction had fled north and north-westward, tribe after tribe disappearing under the destroying hand of the invaders.

The ferocious Chaka was murdered

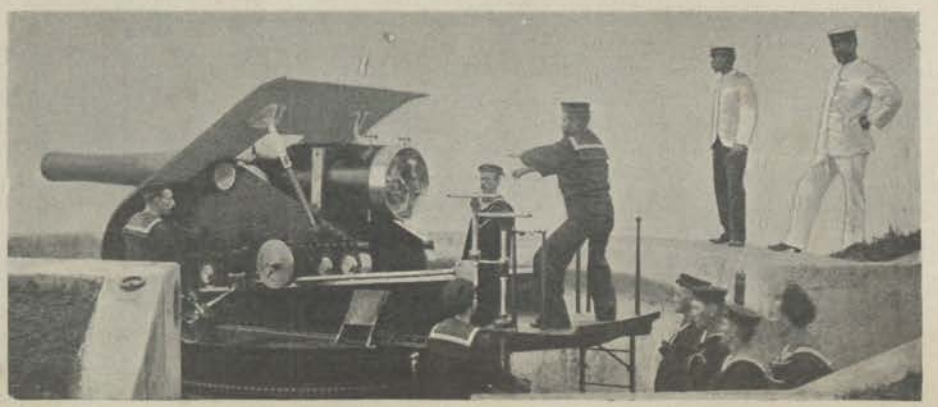


Photo NATAL NAVAL VOLUNTEERS. Navy and Army.
Gun-laying Practice at Durban.

by two of his brothers in 1828, and one of them, the terrible Dingaan, reigned in his stead. A scarcely less famous Zulu chief named Moselekatse had ravaged the country now known as the Transvaal, driving the main force of the wretched Bechuanas even beyond the Limpopo, and, defying Chaka's powers, had established the kingdom of the Matabele, and exercised a wide military sway. This terrible blood-spilling had almost emptied the country north and east of the Cape, and an attempt was being made to civilise and Christianise some of the tribes driven down from the north while the Basutos were settling down.

It was in these circumstances that the Boers trekked north-east. President Kruger, then a boy of eleven, was among them. They met, to begin with, little sign of hostility. They moved on over the drifts of the Orange River, shooting, it is said, 200 lions, on the way to the Vaal, and occupied the territory in the northern part of what is now the Orange Free State; and Potgieter and a party of burghers made an expedition of discovery to Zoutpansberg, their enthusiasm rising at the rich promise of the country, and at the prospect of opening communications with Delagoa Bay. But, on their return, a terrible awakening was in store for them. A horde of Moselekatse's warriors had fallen upon the little band, and had massacred all who could not fly. Potgieter now saw the character of his adversary, and made every preparation to resist attack. A laager was formed by lashing fifty waggons together and filling the spaces between with thorns, and the women and children were collected within. The Matabele did not give much breathing space, and it was a marvel that every white person in that laager did not perish. The Boers, however, were excellent marksmen, and were well supplied with ammunition, and their

Photo THE LOW VELDT IN NATAL. G. W. Wilson.
As seen from Botha's Hill in the Drakensberg.

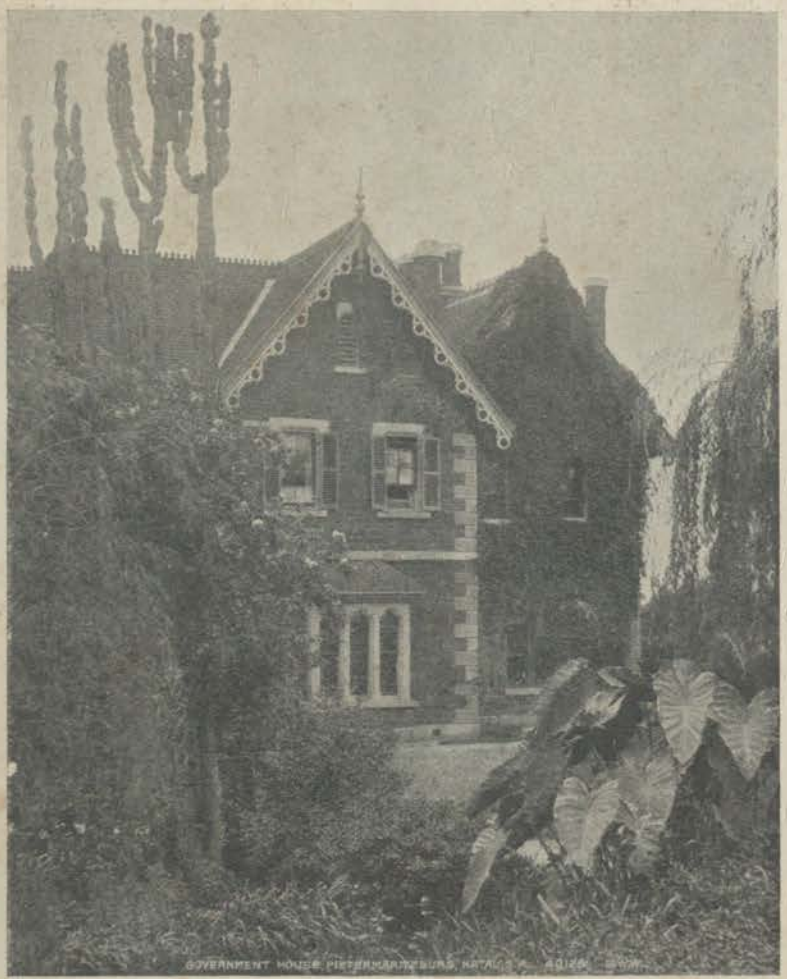


Photo GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PIETERMARITZBURG. G. W. Wilson.
The Residence of the Governor of Natal.

wives and daughters were loading the guns within, and passing them up as each barrel was emptied. Many a follower of Moselekatse fell ere he reached the stronghold, but the Boers held out, and at last the assailants retired, after having thrown eleven hundred spears over the waggons. When the defeated warriors withdrew, they left the garrison of the laager in a wretched condition, many dead, others wounded, all short of food, and they drove off 6,000 head of cattle and 40,000 sheep. It was a terrible blow, but relief came, and ultimately the courageous Boers, with a readiness to attack which they have shown again in Natal, proceeded, with a handful of men, to inflict a lesson upon the warlike Matabele. Strange as it may seem, they succeeded, owing to their possession of firearms, and to their knowing well how to use them. Winburg, on the Vet River, about 130 miles almost due west of Harrismith, is the mark of their triumph, and the place where, with gathering strength, they were able to form a provisional constitution, in June, 1837.

But the immigrant Boers were now to taste the metal of the trained and truculent Zulus. The power which

Dingiswayo, Chaka, and Dingaan had perfected, rested upon a strong military organisation. The discipline of the Zulu impis was of the best, and the character of the tactics adopted — mainly marked by frontal and flank attacks, carried out by strong bodies with enveloping horn-like formations at either end—was based upon the European system, with special modifications to meet the conditions of the country. What is now the "garden colony" of Natal, the fairest region of South Africa—the Terra Natalis of Vasco da Gama, so named because he reached it on Christmas Day, 1497—was under Zulu sway. A few Englishmen were living at Port Natal, which is the beautiful modern Durban, but the British authorities had been unwilling to acquire new territory which might involve them in hostilities with such troublesome neighbours as Chaka.

The opportunity seemed favourable to the Boers. They had found a zest in their wandering life, and felt great confidence in themselves. Pieter Retief therefore led an exploring party through the passes of the Drakensberg, descended to the smiling country below, and reached Port Natal, where he opened friendly relations with the Englishmen. The beauty and promise of the well-watered region attracted the Boers, and they thought that here at last they should settle down. But it seemed desirable to Pieter Retief and his friends first to come to an arrangement with the great chief Dingaan. They accordingly visited him, and were received with a show of friendship. His troops were paraded. Trained oxen, it is asserted, danced with his soldiers, and he sent huge pieces of beef and calabashes of his own millet beer for the refreshment of his visitors. Negotiations were entered upon, and he promised the cession of the territory, provided, as a condition, that the Boers would first recover a herd of 700 head of cattle, which a chief named Sikonyela had stolen from his frontier.

The good news of the fair land of promise was carried to Winburg, whither Retief returned, and the cattle having been wrung out of the unruly neighbour, Sikonyela, a large number of the Boer farmers prepared to trek down into Natal. Very soon a thousand waggons had passed the Drakensberg, and were descending into the lower country, while preparations for settlement were made, the immigrants outspanning and forming kraals by the rivers. Meanwhile Retief, with a party of sixty-five Europeans and some thirty Hottentot servants, rode in state to the capital of Dingaan at Umkungunhlovo, driving the promised cattle before them. They were the best men of the immigrant Boers, and were again received with the appearance of friendliness. There were fresh festivities, and on February 4, 1838, the chief affixed his sign to the treaty.

Photo THE CAPITAL OF NATAL. G. W. Wilson.
Pietermaritzburg from the East.

The visitors arranged to depart on the next day, and Dingaan insisted that they should come to his kraal for the final leave-taking. They did so, and were asked to leave their arms outside as a mark of mutual confidence. With some doubt at their hearts they stacked them under charge of their servants and entered. Dingaan received them effusively, and they sat in a circle to drink his health as the calabash was passed round; but, at the very moment, the truculent savage sprang to his feet, gave the sign, and hundreds of Zulu warriors rushed in, and with assegais and clubs slaughtered the defenceless men before they could draw their trusty knives. It was

Photo G. W. Wilson.

A SWAZI MAIDEN.

From the Eastern boundary of the Transvaal.

Photo IN ZULULAND. G. W. Wilson

Types of Zulu Young Men.

Photo Edwardes.

A ZULU WOMAN.

From the North-east of Natal.

a monstrous deed of sanguinary treachery, and the dead bodies of the murdered Boers, of whom not one escaped, were dragged out and thrown in a heap, and their bones were found long afterwards by their kindred.

Almost immediately 10,000 Zulus set out, made a forced march, and at dawn fell upon the nearest encampment, not far from the present village of Weenen. A hideous massacre followed, the savages cutting down men, ripping up women with their spears, and beating out the brains of infants. One youth had escaped, to carry the terrible tidings, and hastily the other camps laagered up and prepared for the

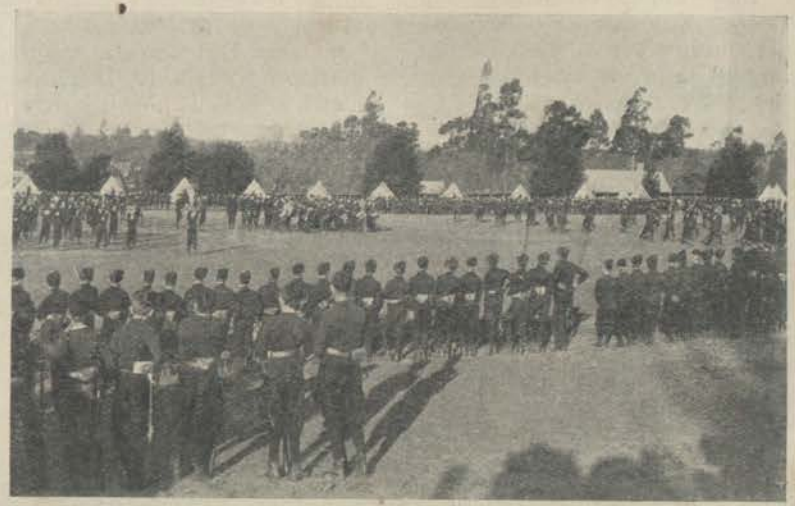


Photo THE MILITARY SPIRIT IN NATAL. Caney.
Parade of Cadets at Pietermaritzburg.

coming storm. The Boers, aided again by their women, were happily able to resist the onslaught, as they had resisted the tribesmen of Moselekatse, but the slaughter was great, and their cattle were swept away. The misery of the immigrants was complete, and some were for evacuating Natal, but the women fired the timid, and the Boers resolved to be revenged.

The Englishmen at Port Natal proffered help, and Hendrik Potgieter and Pieter Uys came with their forces. But, strange as it may seem, jealousy and suspicion led to divided counsels, and, when at length the force marched out, a part of it fell into an ambush in a gorge, and, suffering heavily, extricated itself with difficulty, Commandant Uys and his son being slain. Then seventeen Englishmen, with 1,500 Hottentots, marched against the savages, and were drawn by a retreating force beyond the Tugela,

Photo ON THE NATAL FRONTIER. Clarke.
The Mounted Police on Service.

where they found themselves confronted by a Zulu impi 7,000 strong, with its encircling horns. A terrible fight was waged on April 17, 1838, which we must remember with pride. Three times did the Zulus charge the force, and at length broke it in two. One division, consisting of four Englishmen, heroically cut its way through, and after a fierce conflict escaped across the river. The other, however, could not extricate itself, being surrounded; but it kept up a murderous fire, and crowds of Zulus fell. It was a hopeless struggle; but each man sold his life dearly, and, when a Zulu force swept up from behind, though thirteen Englishmen and a thousand Natal blacks lay dead on the field, the slain Zulus were in heaps, in number perhaps thrice that of their devoted foes.

It would take too long to tell the story of the subjection of the Zulus. Fortunately for the Boers, their petty jealousies were overshadowed by the advent of Andries Pretorius, one of the most famous men who ever led the burghers. Pretorius collected a force, and using very careful tactics, unlike his headlong predecessors, acted always on the defensive. He encountered Dingaan's army, numbering perhaps 10,000, in December, 1838, which attacked him with great fury, but was beaten off, leaving 3,000 dead behind. He then marched to the Zulu capital, but Dingaan burned the place, and retired. Then Panda, Dingaan's half-brother, took up arms to gain the chieftainship, and was a powerful ally of the Boers. It was Panda, indeed, who inflicted the decisive defeat upon Dingaan, in a battle wherein the slaughter was enormous; and the truculent savage was shortly afterwards murdered. The Boers had entered upon this campaign singing psalms and constantly praying, just as if they had been Cromwellians, but the spirit in which they acted is shown by the fact that, when Dingaan sent emissaries to treat for terms, they were seized, tried by drum-head court-martial for being concerned in the great massacre, and shot. We need scarcely wonder that "Dingaan's Day," December 16, is an occasion of great festivity in the Transvaal.

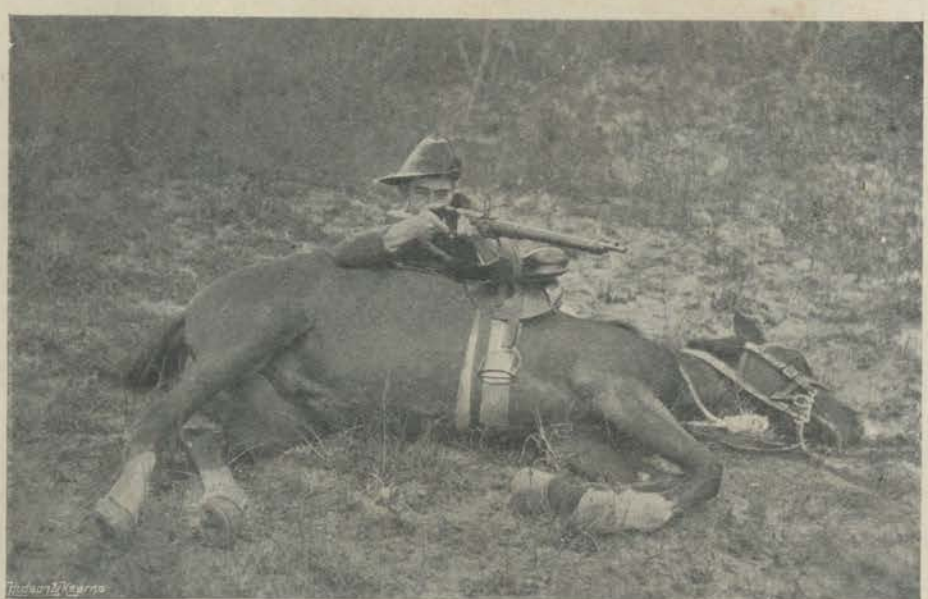


Photo A WELL-TRAINED CHARGER. "Navy and Army."
Natal Mounted Rifleman in Action.

IV.

Briton and Boer.

These remarkable proceedings did not fail to engage the attentive consideration of the British Government. They were, in fact, something of a revelation. The trekking Boer had been known to be a good sportsman. Not many suspected that he might prove a soldier capable of subjecting native races, and a soldier very ready to act on the offensive—a circumstance which should not escape current attention. It was recognised that the Boer people, who had established themselves beyond the Orange River, and had even ventured to create a state in Natal, with a long seaboard and a good port,

Photo "Navy and Army."

ZULUS IN WAR PAINT.

Beginning a War Dance.

were possessed with a violent dislike to England. It was soon discovered that they were also almost destitute of any existing capacity for government. Yet they had driven the Matabele beyond the Limpopo, and, by making a native alliance, had, for a time, at least, curbed the power of the Zulus.

Photo ZULUS IN UNIFORM. "Navy and Army."

Zulu Police at Bayonet Exercise.

Photo "Navy and Army.

ROBERTUS SOUTHAFRICANUS.

The complete Zulu Policeman.

But the Boers, in escaping from the tyranny of our organised society, with its taxes and settled system of justice, had flown to the very evils they had sought to avoid. They went out as nomads, but they could not remain so. For them an ordered government and taxation were necessary, since they had to present a strong force against the natives they had subdued, and needed something approaching justice for themselves. The result was that a state akin to anarchy arose from the conflict of ideas and the jealousy of leaders. The aspiration of each burgher was to live to himself with his flocks and herds, and as far from his neighbours as was

Photo THE ROYAL NAVY AT THE CAPE. Jenks.
Rear-Admiral Sir Robert Harris and Staff.

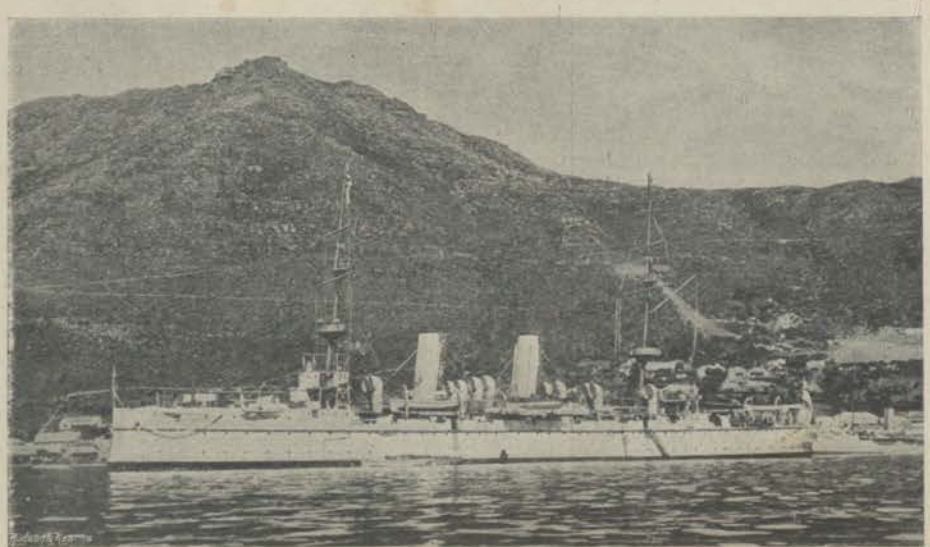


Photo THE FLAGSHIP AT SIMONSTOWN. Jenks.
H. M. S. Doris, carrying the Flag of Admiral Sir Robert Harris.

Photo

SIMONSTOWN, CAPE COLONY.
Headquarters of the British Fleet in South Africa.

Jenks.

Photo

A ZULU KRAAL, BUFFALO RIVER.
Close to the point where the Boers crossed to attack Glencoe.

Edwardes.

Photo THE SOUTH AFRICAN ALDERSHOT. G. W Wilson.
A Street in Ladysmith.

possible, and the progress of towns and villages was slow. Though settling down, he remained half a nomad, still living in dull ignorance of nearly everything outside his limited experience His Government was in a state of the utmost confusion ; every attempt to impose taxes raised discontent ; mutual bitterness ensued, for the men who reached power were mostly uneducated, and some of them scarcely able to write ; but, to whatever class the Boers belonged, all were possessed with the idea that they had secured independence, and could afford to flout the British Government.

The official view at home was that the farmers, by emigrating, had not shaken off the duty of allegiance, and it was evident to all statesmen that they could not be allowed to maintain their Republic of "Natalia," and to establish themselves as an independent Power on the coast. The internal history of the Boer State in the succeeding years is too confused to rivet the attention ; but the salient facts of their external relations must be noted. The arrogance of the leaders reached a high pitch when they sent a commando south of Natal to punish a robber chief. Sir George Napier, then Governor at the Cape, saw the danger, and established a camp near the border of the offending State, and Durban was occupied. Pretorius thereupon demanded that our troops should withdraw ; but Captain Smith, who was in command, was not the man to flinch from duty, though he made a faulty disposition in preparing to attack the Boers, fell into an ambush, and lost heavily. He sent a runner with intelligence of the straits to which he was reduced, for Pretorius invested the camp, and, when a schooner, with reinforcements from Algoa Bay, sailed into Durban Harbour, on June 25, 1842—it was still called Port Natal—the burghers dispersed and Natal became a British possession. It was at first a dependency of Cape Colony, but was created a separate colony in 1856.

No sooner had we established ourselves in Natal than the old spirit of the voortrekker manifested itself afresh. An absurd hatred of everything British, combined with a readiness to take up the life of a wanderer, sent a large number, and the stronger elements, of the immigrant farmers back over the Drakensberg again, to add much to the confusion on their arrival. Once more the long lines of their tent-waggons, with the great teams of oxen, and the vast flocks and herds, were seen toiling up the passes that now lead from Natal into the Orange Free State. Nothing more was wanted to demonstrate the hostile spirit of the Boers, resolved in their remote possessions to reject our influence and defy our authority.

The policy of the British Government, confronted at the time with a new Kaffir rising, was to consolidate the peaceful native States along the

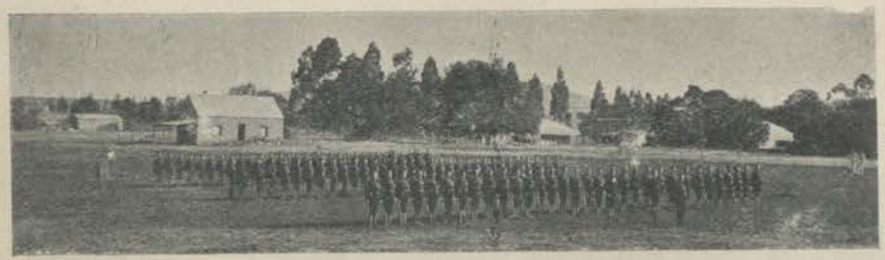


Photo A CRACK COLONIAL CORPS. Clarke.
The Natal Mounted Police.

border; but Sir Harry Smith—who had been Sir Benjamin D'Urban's able lieutenant—arrived as Governor and High Commissioner at the Cape, and took a much grander view. He immediately proclaimed the extension of the Cape Colony to the Orange River, and on February 3, 1848, added to our dominions the territory between the Orange, the Vaal, and the Drakensberg mountains, under the name of the Orange River Sovereignty. A fort and garrison had already been placed at Bloemfontein two years before.

The jealousies which existed among the Boers at the time, not less than the personal popularity of Sir Harry Smith, caused many of the burghers in the region, who had fought with him in some of the earlier wars of the Cape Colony, to receive him with welcome. But this was not the spirit of Pretorius, nor of the vast majority of the Boers north of the Modder. These cherished their hatred of England, and under the leadership of Pretorius swept southward, drove every English official beyond the Orange, and compelled Major Warden at Bloemfontein to capitulate. To be taxed by Englishmen, after all their struggles to be free, was more than these Boers could stand, and they passed through the country with the same Puritan fervour which had been their strength in all their earlier campaigns. Sir Harry Smith, however, was equal to the occasion. Reinforcements were at once hurried up, and he assumed command of a force which crossed the Orange River unresisted, and inflicted a severe defeat upon the Boers under Pretorius in the stubbornly contested battle of Boomplaats on August 29, 1848. There were no further efforts to resist our advance, our authority was re-established, a larger garrison was placed at Bloemfontein, and peace descended upon the country.

President Kruger is accustomed to boast that his peasant father was the first man to fire a shot at us at Boomplaats. He was one of the large body of recalcitrant Boers who once more avoided us, leaving the Orange sovereignty for its good, and retired beyond the Vaal. From every side as we advanced the more inimical elements were, in fact, driven out, and only the more tractable burghers remained, tired of bloodshed and anarchy, to enjoy the advantages of the government we were ready to bestow. It was therefore beyond the Vaal that the men who had a furious detestation of Englishmen and everything English were gathered, shutting themselves up in an isolation that did not give them peace.

Photo "Navy and Army."
ON THE TUGELA RIVER
A Reminiscence of "South Africa, 1879-81."

When Pretorius led the rebels across the Vaal, he declared himself "chief of the whole united emigrant force." Old Potgieter was by no means willing

to submit to such an assumption, and a state of uninteresting anarchy ensued. The "Dutch African Republic" broke up into a number of petty republics, afterwards united again.

Photo T. mple

STURDY WORKERS.
Group of Amaswaz

But it would take too long to tell all the confused events that followed. The Basuto rising became a serious menace, and Pretorius even ventured to intervene in affairs south of the Vaal. Our troops were needed to hold the Kaffirs in check, and the British Government, therefore, decided to exercise no further direct authority over the Transvaal, and by the Sand River Convention, signed on January 17, 1852, the independence of the South African Republic was acknowledged. Its history has been very chequered. The death of Pretorius and Potgieter paved the way to some measure of internal peace, and Marthinus Wessels Pretorius, son of the old campaigner, became president. There remained the element of weakness in the persistent refusal of the Boers to accord to the natives even common justice. Troubles consequently arose. Herman Potgieter and his family were murdered in 1854, and Pretorius avenged the outrage at Matapan's cave. The apprentice law followed in 1856, and introduced a disguised and modified system of slavery. Meanwhile the Orange River sovereignty had developed into the Orange Free State, for in 1854 we withdrew, considering at the time that the colony involved more expenditure and trouble than it was worth.

Photo A VILLAGE COMMUNITY Temple
Kraal in Swaziland.

Photo MAJUBA HILL. G. W. Wilson
Scene of the First Encounter in 1881.

V.

The Expansion of South Africa.

While the Boers were quelling the natives, and confusedly evolving the two Republics with which we are now engaged in hostilities, South Africa had not stood still. Indeed, wherever we look, we shall find nothing in the history of our expansion more marvellous than the growth and extension of our power in this region of the world. Our dominions have become larger, they are filled with prosperous and contented colonists, great towns and cities have risen where a century ago the savage wandered or but a few huts stood to mark the advent of the white man. The natives have been subjected under a wise and ordered government, and everything points to future prosperity, and to the day when the Englishman at the Cape, through the Cape to Cairo railway, will join hands, as it were, with his brother on the banks of the Nile, while vast regions of Central Africa will have been opened to civilisation and commerce. These are large questions, not to be treated here, but it is inspiring to glance at them, while we remember that the only cloud that darkens our dominions is the yet unquenched and wholly unreasonable hostility, open or disguised, of a considerable part of the Dutch population in South Africa.

The early Kaffir wars have been alluded to. The eighth commenced with the burning of the three villages of Auckland, Woburn, and Johannesburg, close to the colonial side of the border, and the murder of forty-six men in cold blood at Christmas time, 1850. It was the longest and, perhaps, the most sanguinary native war in which we have ever engaged, and it will always be remembered in association with the loss of the troopship Birkenhead, with its splendid story of heroism. The war left British Kaffraria strongly established. It was incorporated with Cape Colony in 1865, when the Kei became the boundary. The Colony has since been wonderfully enlarged. Griqualand West, with the Kimberley diamond mines, Tembuland, Galekaland, Pondoland, British Bechu-

analand, and other territories have since been included within its bounds, and the evidences of prosperity, the spread of knowledge, and the development of the land are everywhere apparent. Industry and commerce, with enterprise, have established themselves in the country, and the cities have grown, harbours have been improved, and the railway and telegraph have spread their civilising influence far and wide.

Basutoland, which was once annexed to the colony, is now directly under the imperial control. The Basuto wars were hard-fought, for the country is the Switzerland of South Africa, but the people became content with British rule. Here is a population of 130,000, industrious and yet warlike, and probably the most intelligent of the Kaffir races. They waged a disastrous war with the Free State, which cost them dear, and has left no love for the Boer in their hearts, and they placed themselves under our protection in 1868. If the present racial struggle between English and Boer do not unsettle them—and they are a menace to the Boer—they are likely to become a peaceful and useful community in South Africa.

Natal has grown into one of the fairest of all our colonies, though the Boers have made its northern salient angle the theatre of warfare and the scene of bloodshed, where Englishmen, though losing heavily, have shown once again their splendid qualities. Here is a healthy climate, varying in temperature as we ascend by terraces from the Indian Ocean towards the Drakensberg, well wooded, rich in pasture and agriculture, and with Durban, grown into one of the most pleasant cities in the world, as its capital. The Zulu danger was stamped out by the war of 1879, when the strong military power developed by Chaka, Dingaan, and Cetewayo was broken and the land annexed to the Crown. Long shall we remember the slaughter of Isandhlwana, the heroic defence of Rorke's Drift, the relief of Etchowe, and the final capture and rout of Ulundi. These events are the landmarks of our progress in south-east Africa.

Thus, from the Indian Ocean, at the Portuguese frontier, do we sweep round westward, enveloping the two Dutch Republics on the south and west, while Rhodesia, full of rich promise, won for the empire by the foresight of Mr. Rhodes, bounds the Transvaal on the north, and there touches the Portuguese frontier again. It is a vast country, covering 360,000 square miles, traversed by Livingstone, and explored in part by men like Selous and Parker Gilmore, the great hunters, whose writings have done so much to make it known. Now the famous railway running north, and cut by the Boers in their attack on Kimberley and Mafeking, is developing the possibilities of Rhodesia, and already opening it largely to commerce. It must never again be possible for Boer hostility to threaten our communications on this western flank of the Republics.

One of the most important events

Photo "Navy and Army."

MEAT FOR "BILTONG."
The result of Boer Straight Powder.

that ever happened in South Africa was the discovery of the first diamond by Mr. John O'Reilly, at Kimberley, in March, 1867. The beneficial effects are visible everywhere in the increase of trade and prosperity, the greater employment of native labour, the progress of public works, the larger dissemination of wealth, and the expansion into unexplored regions. Coupled with the momentous discovery of gold in the Transvaal, it has transformed this part of Africa. It has carried energy and capital from the coast into the interior, and has installed industry and settled communities in large towns, where before only the half nomad Boer tended his sheep and cattle. It was Kimberley that attracted the railway, and from Kimberley that it is being carried on into Central Africa.

Thus, wherever we look, contrasted with the anomalous state of the unprogressive Boer, we discover the signs of English influence spreading prosperity and encouraging progress. There is ample room in South Africa for the industrialist, the artisan, the farmer, and the hunter. The riches of the countries, mineral and agricultural, outside the merely pastoral regions, seem inexhaustible, and the English tongue is spreading as the pioneer of advancement.

South Africa is naturally a country of contrasts, enjoying, owing to its terraced formation, as it rises step by step from the sea, and in the vast plains of the Orange River, and again further north, almost every variety of climate. Many various features of life are developed. For salubrity most parts of it are unsurpassed, for sport there is no country in the world so rich, for every form of activity it furnishes ample scope. Thus in the great towns of the seaboard, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, King William's Town, and Durban, to name no more, we find all the conditions of the most highly civilised life. There is nothing to differentiate such places from the conditions of London or Paris, except for the local circumstances that add a further charm. Great hotels, richly furnished restaurants, clubs, banks, huge commercial houses, and all the apparatus of modern life, are here just as in the great cities of Europe. There is, perhaps, as much of fashion and of the enjoyment of society in the towns of South Africa as we can find almost anywhere in the world, but there is an added charm of personal characters, climate, and less constrained conditions difficult to describe, but well known to all who have experienced it. Yet, outside the towns, much of old-world simplicity remains. The farming population, English and Dutch, have a life quite their own, and still the great ox-waggon, creaking along the roads and splashing through the drifts, is the vehicle for all heavy traffic where no railway exists, and the vast flocks and herds on the wide-spread veldt are there as in the old colonial days. The conditions of domestic life that arise from the presence of black servants seem strange to new arrivals, but they belong to the soil, and there is no greater comfort than is to be found in most parts of South Africa. The rich fauna of the country—now, indeed, retreating as civilisation advances, and tending, perhaps, in some directions to extinction—still forms a great attraction to the hunter; and the records of big-game shooting in South Africa are famous in the annals of sport. The huntsman is a type apart. So, indeed, is the South African miner, whose labours have done so much for the land.

Photo "Navy and Army"

LEST WE FORGET.
A Monument on Majuba Hill.

But, wherever we go—save in some members of the Afrikander Bond and in Hollanders with pro-Boer leanings—we find a deep love for England, and firm loyalty to the Empire. The South African is certainly no Little Englander. He looks to a larger Imperial life, and his sturdy loyalty and frank enthusiasm are no small factor in the respect and influence the British Empire commands throughout the world.

Photo PAARDE KRAAL. Edwardes.
Where the Boers celebrate the great victory over the Zulus.

The Dream of a Dutch Republic.

By DAVID HANNAY.

I.

The Early Years.

With the establishment of a Republic "one and indivisible" in 1864, the great aim of the Boer voortrekkers beyond the Vaal would appear to have been achieved. They had got through their period of wandering, their "forty years in the desert," as they would describe it themselves in their favourite biblical language, and were settled, if not in a land flowing with milk and honey, at least in one which afforded them vast expanses of light pasture. They had driven one Canaanitish people, the Matabele, across the Limpopo. They had taught another, the Zulus, a memorable lesson on the Blood River. Also they had spared certain Jebusites to be hewers of wood and drawers of water. Their period of anarchy was over and they could now settle down to enjoy what they had won. England had resigned all claim to govern them by the Sand River Convention of 1852. The Orange Sovereignty had become the Orange Free State to the south of them by the deliberate act of the British Government, and it rested with themselves to prove that they could establish a lasting Republic. In fifteen years they brought things to such a pass that an officer of the British Government was able to re-annex them with the approval of at any rate a large part of the white dwellers between the Vaal and the Limpopo, and the acquiescence, sulky and reluctant, but for the time real, of the others.

The first question to be disposed of in telling the story of the South African Republic, which we call the Transvaal, is how did this come to be the case? The great trek, and the conditions which made it possible, have been described. Our readers will already have observed that if the Boers had some excuse for comparing themselves to the Chosen People, they bore a much closer resemblance to those barbarians, our own English fathers among them, who overran the Roman Empire. One great difference there

Photo. A SCENE IN PRETORIA. "Navy and Army.
How the Boers save Hotel bills.

was. The Barbarians marched under the leadership of princes and chiefs, who were hereditary rulers, or were at least elected from certain "sacred" families. Among the Boers no man was noble, and the leaders had to make their way to command slowly, and by their own exertions. Moreover, they could only keep it so long as they remained popular. Therefore the Boers were, if anything, less organised and less capable of forming a State than Franks, or Lombards, or Wisigoths, to whom they bore so close a likeness. They had reverted very thoroughly to the ideals and ways of life of our German fathers. Like them, they hated town life, and preferred to dwell every man in his own grange, well away from his neighbours. They had a rooted dislike of most of the duties of citizenship, and more especially of the payment of taxes. Indeed, they were so primitive that they used very little money, and conducted such trade as they had mainly by barter. To live every man by himself, and as master of his household, without dealings with any Government, was their ideal. It was impossible to make a State out of such elements. The Boers were, in fact, little more than a tribe like the black peoples about them. They dominated because they had better arms, and had also the better intelligence of a white race. Political ambition was so weak among them that they chose for their second President Mr. Burgers, a Cape Dutchman, of whom they made a figurehead.

So far the Boers look picturesque and innocent. In the early times of their Republic, they had the virtue, and also the good sense, to discourage prospecting for the gold which was known to exist in their territory, because they were afraid it would attract a great influx of strangers, by whom their ideal of pastoral life would be disturbed. But if the Boers were not greedy for gold, they were abun-

Photo THE CAPITAL OF THE TRANSVAAL. Edwardes.
Panorama of Pretoria.

dantly greedy for land. And it was inevitable that they should be. The families were large, and had no notion of living except by stock farming, which, in a country where the pasture is thin, requires a great expanse of fields. As the lads grew up they had to be provided for, and so had the girls. No Boer youth thought of supporting himself and a wife except by stock farming. Now, though the Transvaal is as large as Great Britain and Ireland, and though the expulsion of the Matabeles had left all the conquered Canada about one hundred and thirty years ago, and are to-day more than a million and a half, have grown in these proportions without the help of immigration.

Time and opportunity have so far failed the Boers. Yet in the first years of their free Republic they had already begun to throw off swarms, and hence came their troubles. They began to press on the Zulus to the east, of whom part were within their territory, others were in the kingdom of Zululand under Panda, the successor of that Dingaan

Photo AN AFRICAN FERRY, Edwardes.
Scenery on the Limpopo River.

centre of the country free, it follows that there would soon be a need for fresh conquests. In time, and if nothing had occurred to check their development, they must have swarmed, northward over the Limpopo, westward among the Bechuanas, and eastward, down to the sea over the Zulus. A people living in healthy conditions will double in twenty-five years. Now it is an easy sum to show that 50,000 people in the year 1, increasing at this rate, will be 800,000 by the year 100. The French Canadians, who were some 70,000 or less when we whom the Boers had beaten in Natal, and Panda's son, Hetshwayo or Cetewayo. The process by which one race extrudes another can never be a gentle one. When free from fraud it takes the form of downright violence. Thus the Boers had expelled the Matabele, who had established themselves in the Transvaal by force originally, and who, when driven out by a yet stronger man, better armed, made a new home north of the Limpopo by an atrocious massacre of the weak Mashonas. But pure violence was frequently diluted by fraud in dealing with the natives it

the Transvaal. Wherever the white man and the dark-skinned savage dwell together and the latter is in the position of owner of land, there goes on a process which differs very little in any age or region of the earth's surface. The white man buys the right to use the land for purposes of cultivation or pasture. He makes the contract. The savage is allowed to suppose that he is only renting his land. The white man claims that he has bought it. Then come disputes, outrages on the part of the savage, who finds himself being gradually choked in his own country, and fierce retaliation by the white. In the end the strong remain masters while the conquered race takes refuge in hills, from which in turn it makes raids on the intruder who has dispossessed it of its home. This struggle for life went on within the Transvaal on the eastern side, both between the Boers and the tribes within their borders, and, in a less degree, between them and the Zulu kingdom. To this must be added the fact that the Boers, in spite of promises to the contrary, maintained a system of slavery. They kidnapped black children to be brought up as servants.

Essentially this was the way in which the English race established itself in Britain. The Boers were not necessarily bad. They were only in various respects on the same moral

Photo G. W. Wilson.

AURI SACRA FAMES.

Natives Bound for the Goldfields.

Photo G. W. Wilson.

AN OUTSPAN.

Boer Camp Life in the Transvaal.

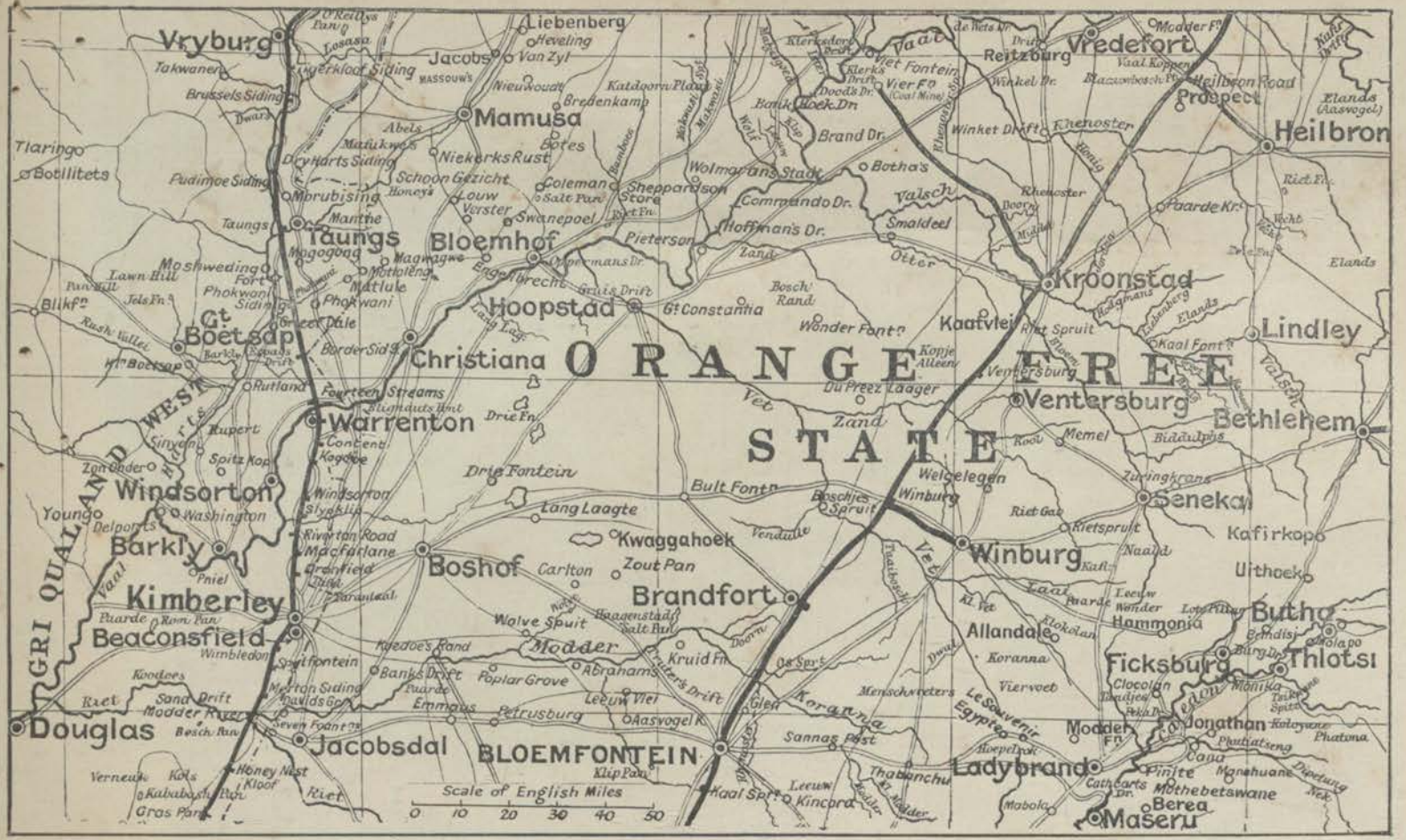
level as our ancestors of a thousand years ago. But all this was happening in the nineteenth century, under the eyes of English missionaries, to whom such actions were hateful. We, who have exterminated the natives of Tasmania at a comparatively recent time, have possibly no great right to throw stones at the Boers. Yet in this century at least the Imperial Government has always striven hard to protect the natives from the cupidity of white settlers, and we were honestly offended at the inhumanity of the Boer rule in the Transvaal. Moreover, we had a very direct interest in the question. Sir George Grey had pointed out in 1859 that whenever a native race was driven out by the Boers it was compelled to seek a refuge somewhere. The Matabele invasion of Mashonaland was a case in point. It might very well happen that if the Transvaal pressed too hard on the Zulus, and the Free State on the Basutos, they might both hurl themselves on our territory and impose upon us all the horrors of a native war with peoples against whom we had no original cause of quarrel of our own

Meanwhile the Boer Government had proved a complete failure. The widely scattered farmers of the Transvaal were not qualified to establish a good administration. Mr. Burgers, whom they

By permission of "South Africa" Newspape

PRESIDENT STEYN, OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

Who issued orders for the first Act of War.



STRATEGIC POINTS: KIMBERLEY AND BLOEMFONTEIN.
(Reproduced by permission from Bacon's War Map.)

brought in to be the figurehead of their State, was a good, weak man, who offended them by his religious opinions. Jokers among the English at the Cape asserted that he first excited their indignation by denying that the devil has a tail as he is drawn in old illustrated Bibles. This is probably an invention of the enemy. Mr. Burgers certainly became unpopular and insignificant. The treasury was empty, as might have been expected among a people who will not pay taxes. The natives, under their chief, Sikukuni, and his pugnacious sister, began to make a fierce stand in the hill fastnesses on the north-east of the Republic. The Boers, who do not naturally act together except to defend their existence or gain pastures, conducted the war against him with little spirit. The Republic, in short, appeared to have collapsed by 1876, and this coincided with a great renewal of interest in colonial matters in England, and the arrival in South Africa of a High Commissioner who was not only a very energetic man, but one trained in the Indian Civil Service to hold, and to apply, Imperial ideas.

Photo HOW GOLD IS WON. Edwardes.
In a mine 800 feet below the surface.

II.—Annexation and Revolt.

While the Boer Republic in the Transvaal was going to ruin, the portion of South Africa which remained under the direct rule of Great Britain had begun to make progress. It had suffered much from the more attractive competition of Australia and America, and the immigrants from home had been few. Yet in 1857 and 1858 German settlers had been introduced. Railways began to be made in 1863. British Kaffraria was annexed in 1865; and in 1869 the first steps were taken by Sir Henry Barkly to establish the responsible government which was finally set up at the Cape in 1872. Between these two dates had come the discovery of the diamond mines of Kimberley on the south-western frontier of the Orange Free State. The story of the annexation of this district in 1869 has been the object of a great deal of criticism, and the British Government has been accused, with some plausibility, of showing sharp practice to the Free State. In the end we got the country for £100,000 by a species of forced sale. As the British colonies, and more especially Natal, filled up, the condition of the Transvaal became of more and more importance to the Imperial Government, as well as to the Colonial Administration at Cape Town, and it

grew to be clear that things would not be allowed to drift on as it was going. What complicated matters was the continued existence of the Zulu kingdom, with its powerful military organisation, on the south-east of the Transvaal. The Zulus had been comparatively quiet under the rule of Panda, but they had been shaped into a permanent army by Chaka, and, reign, and Cetewayo, to whom the kingdom fell after Panda, though he had fought for power with his brother, felt that he had an hereditary obligation to make a national war in order "to wash his spears." His views were stated by him with much force in answer to a remonstrance from the Governor of Natal in 1876. "I do kill," said he, "but do not consider

Photo THE GOLDEN CITY G. W. Wilson.
Market Buildings, Johannesburg.

Photo IN THE PIPING TIMES OF PEACE. G. W. Wilson.
A Street in Johannesburg.

being savages, it was to be feared that they would not be content to remain at peace for ever. It is true that they had kept on good terms with us, largely by the influence of Sir Theophilus Shepstone, an Afrikander, who was Secretary for Native Affairs in Natal. But the purpose of their organisation was war. A Zulu king was expected to "eat up" somebody at least once in his yet I have done anything in the way of killing. Why do the white people start? I have not yet begun. I have yet to kill; it is the custom of our nation, and I shall not depart from it. Why does the Governor of Natal speak to me about my laws? Do I go to Natal and dictate to him about his laws? I shall not agree to any laws or rules from Natal, and by so doing

throw the great Kraal I govern into the water. My people will not listen unless they are killed; and, while wishing to be friends with the English, I do not agree to give over my people to laws sent by them. Have I not asked the English Government to allow me to wash my spears since the death of my father Umpandi, and they have kept playing with me all this time, treating me like a child? Go back and tell the English that I shall act on my own account, and if they wish me to agree to their laws I shall leave and become a wanderer, but before I go it will be seen, as I shall not go without having acted."

What Cetewayo meant was not only that he would not give up the barbarous customs of his people, the "witch hunting" and massacres, but that he would insist on being allowed to wash his spears in the blood of the Transvaal Boers. It required only a word from the British Government to let him loose. But it was impossible for us to stand by while the Zulu nation was hurling itself on the Transvaal, and setting all the peoples of South Africa in motion, with the certain prospect that if they proved victorious we should have an enormous native war on our own hands. To avert that peril we insisted that the Zulus should remain quiet—but it was also necessary to restrain the Boers from their constant encroachments on the territory claimed by Cetewayo. The British Government was also at that time very anxious to bring about a confederation of all the colonies, and white people in South Africa. To do this thoroughly it was necessary to annex the Transvaal. Sir T. Shepstone was authorised to declare any territory annexed by the Crown if he could do so with the consent of the inhabitants, or of a majority of them. In April, 1877, therefore, he rode into Pretoria with a small escort of police, and hoisted the British Flag.

This measure has naturally been much debated, and it has been said that Sir T. Shepstone did not comply with his instructions to secure the approval of the inhabitants, or of a majority of them. That the Boers were not pleased to be reunited to the British Empire must be held to be proved by subsequent events. But they certainly acquiesced at the time with a mere protest, and the few English then settled among them, together with some of the burghers of Dutch descent, were in favour of the measure. As for the justice of it, that is a large question. It is enough to say here that the British Government never had promised, and never could undertake, to allow the Transvaal to become a danger to all South Africa. If it could not govern itself with a due regard to the safety of its neighbours, the Imperial Government was entitled in self defence to take it in hand.

For a time there was a security for the continued submission of the Boers. The Zulu kingdom was still unbroken, and remained as a constant menace on the border. But at the close of 1878 and beginning of 1879 this peril wa

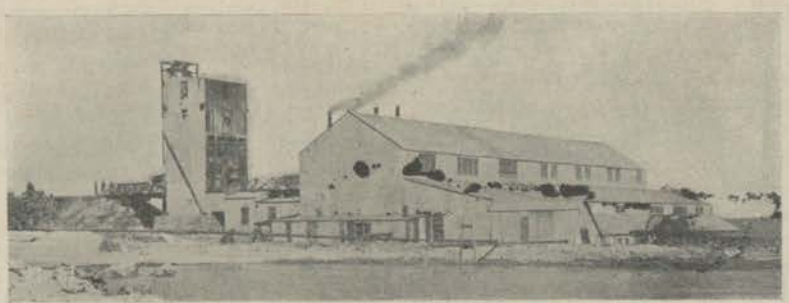


Photo MORE GOLD. Edwardes.

Shafthead and Battery on the Rand.

Photo BARBERTON, Edwardes.
On the Eastern Border of the Transvaal.

removed. Sir Bartle Frere arrived almost on the very day when Sir Theophilus Shepstone was annexing the Transvaal, to fill the post of Governor of the Cape Colony and High Commissioner in South Africa. It was the hope of the Imperial Government that he would be able to complete the confederation. He was not able to achieve this during the three years of his governorship, which were chiefly notable for the destruction of the Zulu kingdom, and the beginning of the revolt in the Transvaal. The causes which brought about the collision with the Zulus have been briefly indicated. Cetewayo has found defenders who have argued that the attack on him was unfair, since he had never directly assailed us, and because his country was invaded on the ground that he might at some future time become dangerous. It was pleaded that any State which maintains an army could be attacked on this ground. The answer is that if the neighbours of any State in Europe knew that they could secure themselves by forcing it to disband its army, and if they had the power to do so, then they would

Photo KLERKSDORP. "Navy and Army.
Close to the Vaal River and near Mafeking.

Photo ZEERUST. "Navy and Army.
In the Marico Valley, near Mafeking.

be fully entitled to take that measure of precaution. The existence of such a force as the Zulu army on our borders was incompatible with the security and prosperity of our colonies. We need not now go back at any length to the operations of the war which followed. The enemy was underrated, and the British army was in a state of transition between the old long service and the new short service. The memory of Isandhlwana will not soon be forgotten — nor ought it to be. Some eight hundred British and colonial troops and six hundred native allies were crushed in one headlong well-directed charge of the Zulu host, on January 22. Some minor failures followed, and one incident of the war —the death of the Prince Imperial, the son of Napoleon III., who was cut off in a reconnoitring party—left a very painful impression. For a time there was a fear that the Zulus would burst into Natal, but they were checked at Rorke's Drift, a ford over the Tugela, by the steady courage and hard fighting of Lieutenants Bromhead and Chard and a small garrison. Nor was the discipline of the Zulus what it had been, and Cetewayo was not Chaka. Finally, after some four months of delay, and after troops had been poured into Africa, Lord Chelmsford marched again into Zululand. The enemy made their last effort at Ulundi, and the Zulu kingdom collapsed.

While this war was in progress we had been engaged in operations against Sikukuni, and the first signs of the Boer revolt in the Transvaal had become visible. Some of the Boers

Photo POTCHEFSTROOM. G. W. Wilson.
The Scene of a Gallant British Defence in 1881.

Photo BACK FROM THE GOLDFIELDS. G. W. Wilson.
Travelling by Mule Coach in the Transvaal.

took part with us in all this fighting, but the agitation against the annexation was growing in strength. When Lord Wolseley, then Sir Garnet Wolseley, succeeded Lord Chelmsford, he completed the conquest of Sikukuni's country, and so removed the last menace of danger which gave the Boers a reason for submitting to English rule.

Once more there is occasion to note that infinite controversy has raged over the rising of the Boers in 1880. Much of it on both sides is not above

Photo TEN IN HAND. Edwardes.
Travelling along the Banks of the Limpopo.

the level of mere abuse. No people will willingly submit to foreign rule, even when it is wise, and is for their good. In this case, too, the Boers had some ground for asserting that faith had not been kept with them. Sir T. Shepstone had promised that they should have a large measure of self-government, and this engagement was not fulfilled, mainly because the Imperial Government was anxious to bring about the federation of South Africa as a preliminary. There was no deliberate breach of faith, but the fact remains that the word of the British Government was not kept. As a matter of course, our opponents made the most of the failure, and appealed to the suspicions of the Boers. It is probable, too, that the defeat at Isandhlwana, and the great display of force we had made against an enemy whom some of the Boers still living had helped to defeat with a mere handful of men, and with far inferior arms, had a great share in encouraging them to have recourse to force. Towards the close of 1880 the discontented Boers formed a triumvirate, composed of Pretorius, Joubert, and Kruger, whose name is now so familiar to us all. Under the guidance of this committee they began to collect in arms. The movement coincided with the reaction against the Imperialism of Lord Beaconsfield at home, which brought Mr. Gladstone back into office with an overwhelming majority. Sir Bartle Frere was recalled.

There are few more painful passages in our colonial history than the restoration of self-government to the

Photo Temple.

KOPJE SCENERY.
On the Portuguese Border.

Boers in 1881. The mere fights which went on from the attack on the escort of the 94th between Lydenburg and Pretoria on the 20th December, 1880, down to the storming of Majuba Hill by the Boers on the 27th February, 1881, were incidents of partisan warfare, not glorious to us nor always creditable to the Boers, but such as had often occurred before, and, no doubt, will happen again. The enemy showed a good deal of skill in their own kind of fighting, and their attack on Majuba Hill was a dashing piece of work, comparable to the victory of the Highlanders at Preston Pans in the Jacobite revolt of 1745. As far as the mere actions are concerned, we would not need to be more sore over the success of the Boers than over the victory of the clans, but for other things. It was the surrender of the British Government which followed Majuba, and the subsequent conduct of the Boers, which have constituted the grievance. Mr. Gladstone's Government had a strong case for withdrawing the proclamation of annexation, since Sir T. Shepstone's instructions

Photo Edwards.

IN SWAZILAND.
Pigg's Peak Hotel and Store.

directed him to get the consent of at least a substantial majority of the inhabitants, and it had never been fully and formally given. But, if it meant to act on that rule, it ought never to have allowed any fighting to take place. It preferred to begin by refusing, and then to make concessions after defeat, and after accumulating large forces in South Africa. Moreover, it made its concessions subject to restrictions, and to an assertion of British sovereignty, which were positively certain to lead to further debates, and not improbably to open quarrel. The Convention of Pretoria signed in 1881 restored the Transvaal Republic, subject to the "suzerainty" of the Crown. Promises were made on behalf of the Boers that all British immigrants should have free access to, and equal rights in the Transvaal. It was hoped on our side that the Boers would recognise the generosity we had shown in not using ourstrength to obtain a set-off for Majuba.

Photo MR. T. SCHREINER. Elliott and Fry.

Cape Premier at the commencement of the War.

III.—The Gold.

The relations on which the two parties were left were such as required the utmost tact, good temper, and fairness of conduct on both sides if they were to continue tolerable. It cannot be said that these qualities were displayed by the Boers. The transactions which followed, and which have led to the present war, fall into two periods—that which preceded and that which followed, the discovery of the great gold deposits on the Witwaterstrandt in 1886. During the first, the Transvaal appeared to have reverted to something not very unlike its condition before 1876, but in improved circumstances. The destruction of the Zulu kingdom, and the defeat of Sikukuni, had removed dangers internal and external. But, what was of more importance, the Boers found a leader in one of the three committeemen appointed in 1880 who has given them a degree of unity and an intelligent direction of government such as they had never possessed in the previous stages of their history. Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger has been, and is, our enemy, though he acquiesced for a time in the annexation, and even held office. His methods are of an exasperating character, and there is something a little grotesque

OF THE
ABIATIO SO

Photo Edwards.

"KRUGER'S HEAD."

A peculiar peak in the Drakensberg Range.

Photo THE JOHANNESBURG VOLUNTEERS. "Navy and Army."
Group of Non-Commissioned Officers.

in his whole appearance and manners. It is natural that he should have been the subject of a good deal of abuse, but to scold at any opponent is not good sense. Prince Bismarck is said to have described Mr. Kruger, whom he saw and had some talk with in Berlin during the Boer leader's visit to Europe, as quite the most astute man he had ever met. Whether the great German statesman said this or not, it is manifestly true that Mr. Kruger is very astute. He has fought his cause with an almost infinite flexibility in the use of means, but with an undeviating pertinacity of purpose which have made him more than a match for all opponents so far, and have driven us at last to employ immense resources to conquer him. No doubt circumstances have favoured him as they favoured Prince Bismarck, but the man of whom this can be said is no common man.

GENERAL JOUBERT.
Commander of the Forces, and Vice-President S.A.R.

The cause for which Mr. Kruger has laboured is the entire independence of his country, from which again we may fairly guess that he hoped to obtain the predominance of his own Boer stock in South Africa. During the first years he was engaged partly in efforts to develop the wealth of his country as a pastoral Republic, partly in negotiations with the British Government to secure a relaxation, if not an entire removal, of the restrictions on the complete freedom of the Transvaal imposed by the Convention of Pretoria. He visited Europe for both purposes. His rough figure, rude manners, and perpetual pipe-smoking excited some astonishment. It is said that at this time he endeavoured to obtain friends out of England with a view to enjoying their support. Possibly he did, but in matters of this nature accusations are very easy, and proof is very difficult. What is certain is that he did prefer to find the capital he wanted, and the officials he stood in need of, but could not find among his own farmer burghers, elsewhere than in England. He has shown a distrust even of the Cape Dutch, and has elected to take his skilled help from Holland. In 1884

Photo

OOM PAUL ADDRESSES THE CROWD.

Navy and Army."

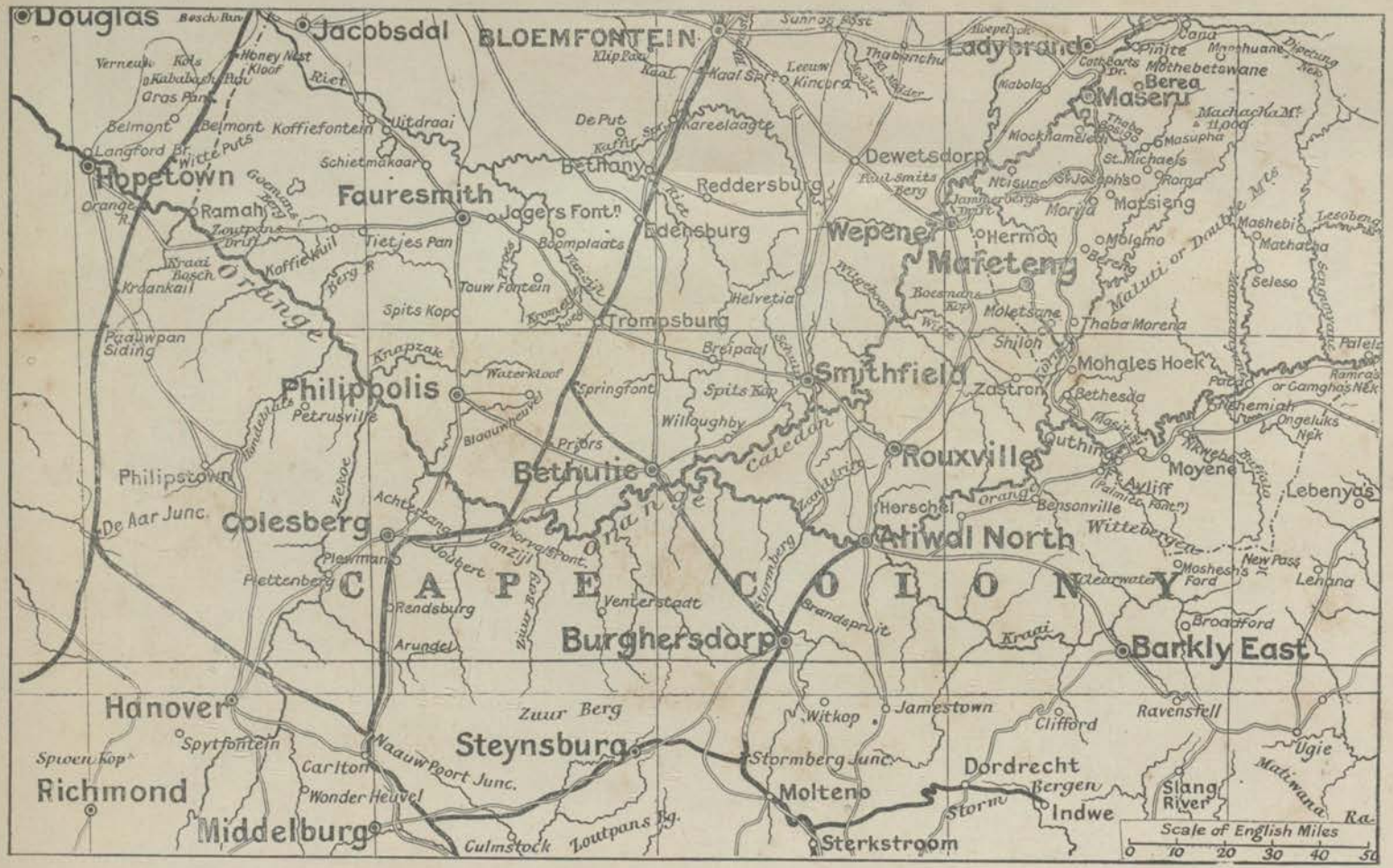
Photo By permission of "Black and White."

PRESIDENT KRUGER.

Photo

MR. CHAMBERLAIN

Elliott and Fry



STRATEGIC POINTS: COLESBURG AND HOPETOUN

Reproduced by permission from Bacon's War Map.

he persuaded the British Government to modify the convention of Pretoria, and replace it by another, which certainly did enlarge the freedom of the Transvaal. What became of the suzerainty in the course of these negotiations is a nice question. Perhaps it is not a very important one, seeing that the word is one which means anything or nothing, according to circumstances. What is a substantial fact is that the Transvaal promised to make no treaties, except with the neighbouring Free State, save with the approval of the Imperial Government. Therefore, it did not obtain the status of an independent country, but remained bound to the Crown. While making this concession to satisfy the Boers, we obtained from them, as some equivalent, a distinct settlement of their western border. This was a matter of no small importance, for to the west of the South African Republic, to give it its official name, is the country of the Bechuanas, which had first been opened to the knowledge of civilised men by English missionaries, Livingstone, Moffat, and others, and which was the natural road from the Cape to Central Africa.

COMMANDANT CRONJE.

Yet though the frontier had been clearly marked on this side, our first difficulty with the Transvaal arose out of a Boer intrusion into Bechuanaland. The Bantu tribes inhabiting the country, though generally counted more peaceful than their kinsmen, the Zulus, were abundantly pugnacious in tribal fights. The Boers, whose families are large, and who increase very rapidly, and who adhere to farming as their natural occupation, began already to want more land. Adventurers slipped over the border to take part in the wars of the Bechuana chiefs, looking to find their reward in the spoils of war which took the form of farms and grazing land. Filibusters of this stamp founded the two so-called Republics of Goshen and Stellaland in what was, by the acknowledgment of the Transvaal Government itself, a British protectorate. It is possible

Photo CAMPAIGNING AGAINST THE SWAZI. "Navy and Army."
Transvaal Volunteer Infantry Patrol.

that political motives were also at work, and that the Boers wished to join hands with the Germans in Damaraland, and so bar the road for the development of Cape Colony to the north. Wild as this may appear, it was not more extravagant than the undoubted action of Mr. Kruger when he annexed the so-called Republics to the Transvaal — though with a reservation that the measure was subject to the approval of the Imperial Government. Perhaps he really thought that he would be allowed to have his way. The first measures of the Imperial Government had not been successful. Neither Mr. Mackenzie, who was first sent out as Commissioner, nor Mr. Rhodes, who followed him, were able to make an impression on the anarchy of Bechuanaland. Mr. Kruger's high-handed proceedings brought matters to a crisis. The Imperial Government was compelled to intervene. In 1885 Sir Charles Warren was sent out to organise a colonial force at the Cape, and before the close of the year he had marched up into Bechuanaland and had pressed the Boer filibusters back over the border without having to fight. Bechuanaland became a Crown colony, and has been administered with little or no difficulty.

If no new element had now been introduced it is possible that the Transvaal would in time have settled down into another version of the Orange Free State, which was an orderly little country and a good neighbour under the sensible management of President Brand. The northern Boers did indeed make full reconciliation somewhat

Photo "Navy and Army.

COMMANDEERED

Armed Boers in Pretoria.

difficult. Their successes, and more especially their victory at Majuba, had given them an overweening estimate of their prowess. They were never tired of boasting of what they had done, and could in case of need do again. Yet the number of English in the Transvaal was not considerable so far, and the retreat of the filibusters before Sir Charles Warren seemed to show that the Boers were not so confident as their language implied—or, to put the matter with equal accuracy, as some of the English colonists thought they were. Our countrymen were disposed to think the Boers would be insolent and to see offence. If they had not met in great numbers these feelings might in time have died away. In 1886 something did happen, and it was of a nature to alter the whole relations of the parties to one another. It was the discovery of the great gold deposits on the Witwatersrandt.

That gold existed in the Transvaal

Photo BRONKORST SPRUIT. Edwardes.

Where the 94th Regiment was attacked in 1881.

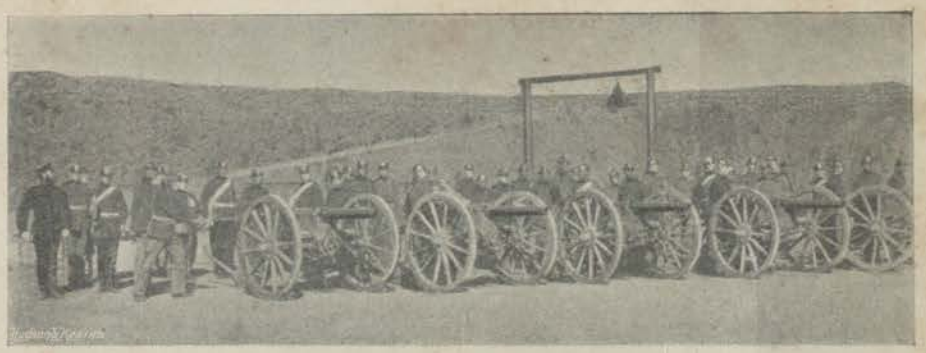


Photo "Navy and Army.

BOER GUNS.
A Battery of Orange Free State Artillery.

had been known for more than thirty years, and it was suspected that it would be somewhere found in great quantities. Indeed the country is otherwise rich in minerals, and in coal. But the demand for other minerals and for coal was not so eager that their presence was as yet likely to attract great numbers of immigrants. It was otherwise with gold. At all times the mere rumour that the precious metal was to be found in any country is enough to attract a swarm of seekers. Up to 1886, though the Transvaal Government had withdrawn its prohibition of prospecting, and some mines had been worked, none of them were very rich. But in that year great discoveries were made both at Sheeba, in the Lydenburg district, north-east of Pretoria, and to the south of it, in the Witwatersrandt, a range of uplands running east and west. This discovery was made at a most opportune moment. For some years the world's demand for gold had been in excess of the supply, and the appreciation of the metal—that is to say its increase in value as compared to silver, owing to its greater rarity—had brought about much disturbance to trade and to agriculture. Therefore, the whole world had soon turned its eyes to the Witwatersrandt, which soon became the object of capitalists in search of profit, of adventurers in search of a rapid fortune, and of workmen in search of high wages.

It is a naturally bleak range of uplands some three hundred miles long, and rising to a height of 5,735 feet above the sea level. In this district the Boers had first proclaimed their revolt in December, 1880. In the spring of 1886 it was a sparsely inhabited region in which a few prospectors and their workpeople were the only inhabitants. Within thirteen years the population of Johannesburg, which is the capital of the mining country, and stands on

Photo "Navy and Army"

THE STAATS ARTILLERIE.
A Military Procession in Pretoria.

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ON THE HIGH VELDT: SCENERY NEAR KRUGERSDORP.

Edwardes.

the highest part of the uplands, had a population of over one hundred thousand. The agitated history of these thirteen years which has culminated in war, and must needs have far-ranging consequences, has arisen out of the rush of immigrants to the gold district.

Before going into that story, however, it is convenient to anticipate the order of time in order to say a few words of what was passing around the Transvaal while matters were coming to a head between the old Burghers and the Uitlanders. Substantially, it amounted to this, that the South African Republic was being shut in on all sides by territory which was either British or was in the possession of Portugal, subject to a right of pre-emption in us if the Portuguese wished to get rid of their dependency. The Boers had always cherished a hope of being able to secure a seaport which would give them a direct outlet under their own control from the high tableland of the Transvaal. This ambition has been defeated. Lourenço Marques, in Delagoa Bay, would be their natural port, but it was closed to them by the action of the British Government, which claimed it. The claim was disputed by Portugal, and on a reference of the question to arbitration by Marshal McMahon, the decision had been in her favour. This was in the time before the annexation and revolt. In 1887 any hope the Boers may have cherished of being able to work down to the sea through Zululand was defeated by the final annexation of the country. Lord Wolseley had divided it among a number of chieftains, but that arrangement had not worked well. The way westward into Bechuanaland had been closed to them in 1885. On the Northern side the tendency of the Boers to wander in search of more and ever more pasture would naturally have led them to make aggressions on Mashonaland, which would have brought them into collision once more with their old enemies the Matabele. From the ease with which Lobengula was overcome in 1893 by the South Africa Company, we may conclude that they would have found no great difficulty in mastering the conquerors and tyrants of the Mashonas. But here, also, they were

Photo DR. LEYDS. Elliott and Fry

Agent for the South African Republic.

Photo TRANSVAAL VOLUNTEERS. "Navy and Army.
In Camp on the Swaziland Frontier.

forestalled, by the enterprise of Mr. Cecil Rhodes. It was known that there was gold also in Mashonaland. Indeed, it has even been guessed that this was the Ophir of Solomon. There are long unused mines there, and traces of the existence of some forgotten ancient people much more civilised than the present native inhabitants.

In 1888 British enterprise was turned in that direction. Concessions to work mines were obtained from Lobengula, the chief of the Matabele. Experience has proved that the granting of concessions has always been the beginning of the ruin of native peoples. A civilised white community and savagery cannot exist together. The one infallibly destroys the other. The course of events in Mashonaland was not different from what has happened in similar circumstances. After disputes of the usual kind, and mutual accusations of violence and fraud, it came in 1893 to open war with the Matabele, and they were overcome. Shortly before this there had been a slight collision between England and Portugal over Mashonaland, and we had been compelled to take strong measures with our old ally. As a matter of course we have been freely denounced for greed and aggression by European rivals who are no less eager than ourselves in the scramble for Africa. It is also with us a matter of course that the leaders and organisers of the enterprise in Mashonaland have been bitterly accused of greed, cruelty, and dishonesty at home. Lobengula has been represented as a victim, and it is, unfortunately, true that he was cruelly deceived by two of the adventurers employed against him. Yet it is hard to think of the Matabele, who began by being a part of Tsaka's army, who cleared a way for themselves by one set of massacres in the Transvaal, and who, when driven from thence by the Boers, made another clearance for themselves by a most hideous slaughter of the feeble Mashonas, as only interesting victims. They rose by the sword and fell by the sword. The newly-acquired possession was entrusted to the South Africa Company, which received a charter. A commercial body is not a good instrument of government, and this company produced, or at least could not prevent, a native rising in 1893. The intervention of the Imperial Government was again called for, and some abuses of power were revealed. Yet we have to thank the South Africa Company, for securing Mashonaland, and for carrying the railway along the frontier of the Transvaal to Buluwayo.

Photo Temple.
NEAR MAFEKING.
Broken Country at Zeerust, Wester Transvaal.

Photo BUCOLICS AND GEORGICS. Temple.
A Dutch Farm in the Orange Free State.

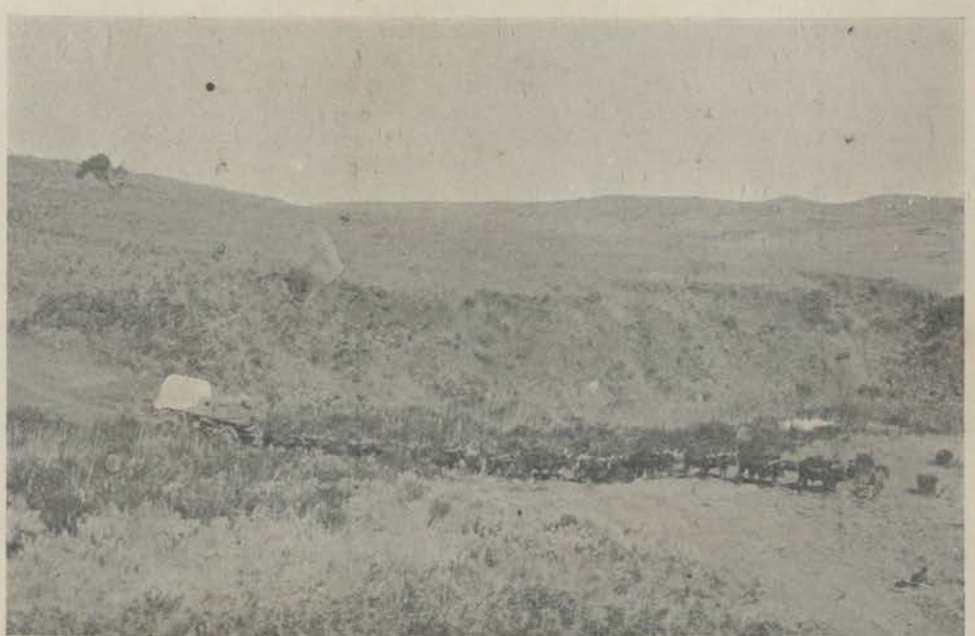


Photo ACROSS COUNTRY. Temple.
Trekking in the Orange Free State.

Photo A BOER COMMANDO. Edwardes.
Crossing the Bridge at Johannesburg.

IV.—THE BOERS AND THE UITLANDERS.

The growth of British possessions had thus turned the Transvaal into a species of cockpit, in which there has gone on a struggle of a very curious kind between the Boers and the new comers attracted by the gold on the Witwatersrandt. The immigrants, who were mostly English speaking, were received by the old burghers with mixed feelings. In so far as they came to make money for the possessors of the land either by supplying a market or by paying taxes and royalties they were welcome. In so far as they brought in a new and alien element to the population, which might become dominant, they were hateful. It has been a misfortune that the habits of the Boers, and their ways of thinking, have prevented them from taking an active share in the working of the mines. If they had done so they might have led in the goldfields, for they owned the soil, could frame their natural laws, and could have made their own terms. But they have not done that. They sold their farms and went away. Yet they wanted to retain their hold on the miners. Their Government—which is practically Mr. Kruger, subject to this check only, that he must retain his popularity with the burghers—has steadily fleeced the Uitlanders. In the first years there was a prospect that the mines on the Rand would become exhausted, as at other places, and that their nomadic population would roll away elsewhere. But it was discovered that the gold lies in these mines in an abundance, and with a regularity unequalled in other regions. Thus it soon became certain that the mining population of the Rand had come to stay. As it soon threatened to outnumber the Boers, these last quickly found themselves face to face with what they considered a danger. If they allowed the newcomers to secure the franchise, they

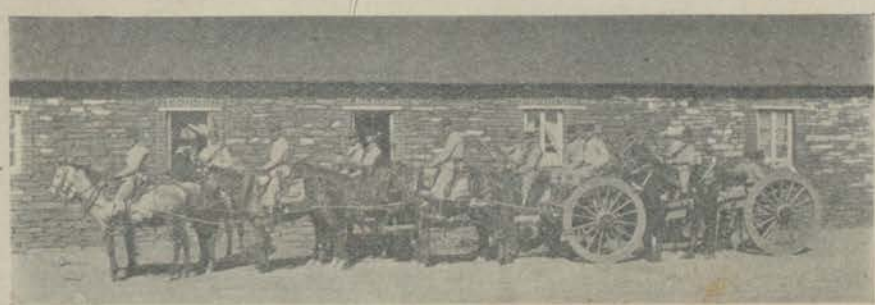


Photo A TRANSVAAL GUN TEAM. "Navy and Army."
Staats Artillerie before their Re-Armament.

Photo BLOEMFONTEIN W. Wilson.
The Capital of the Orange Free State

would soon be outvoted in their own country. The Transvaal would indeed remain a separate State, with ample powers of self government, but the control of it would rest with the English-speaking Uitlanders, and these last might even, if they so pleased, federate with Cape Colony. Such a state of things seemed to the Boers to amount to conquest and loss of their country.

To avert this fate they took to raising the limit of residence required to secure the franchise that it was made impossible for an Uitlander to secure. It was raised from two years to five in 1882, and even that was hardly in full agreement with the promises made in 1881, at the time of the Pretoria Convention. Still, as the Transvaal was now become a foreign country to us, this did not seem an excessive period during which to wait for naturalisation. If the Transvaal Government had kept to it no quarrel would have arisen; but then also the Uitlanders would by this time have formed a majority of the voters, which is what the Boers were thoroughly resolved not to allow. In 1890 a Second Legislative Chamber of the Raad (that is, Council) was created, and Uitlanders were allowed to belong to it, but it was a purely ornamental body, meant only to serve as the proverbial tub for the whale. In 1893 it was put to an ingenious use. Mr. Kruger on one occasion spoke of the necessity of raising the dykes to keep out the floods. In that year a law was passed by the First Raad, the only one which possesses real power, by which it was established that no Uitlander could secure the full franchise till he had been qualified to sit in the Second Raad for ten years. But he could not obtain this privilege till he was thirty, so that the full franchise could never come within his reach till he was over forty. This was indeed a dyke, admirably adapted to keep the Uitlander outside for ever.

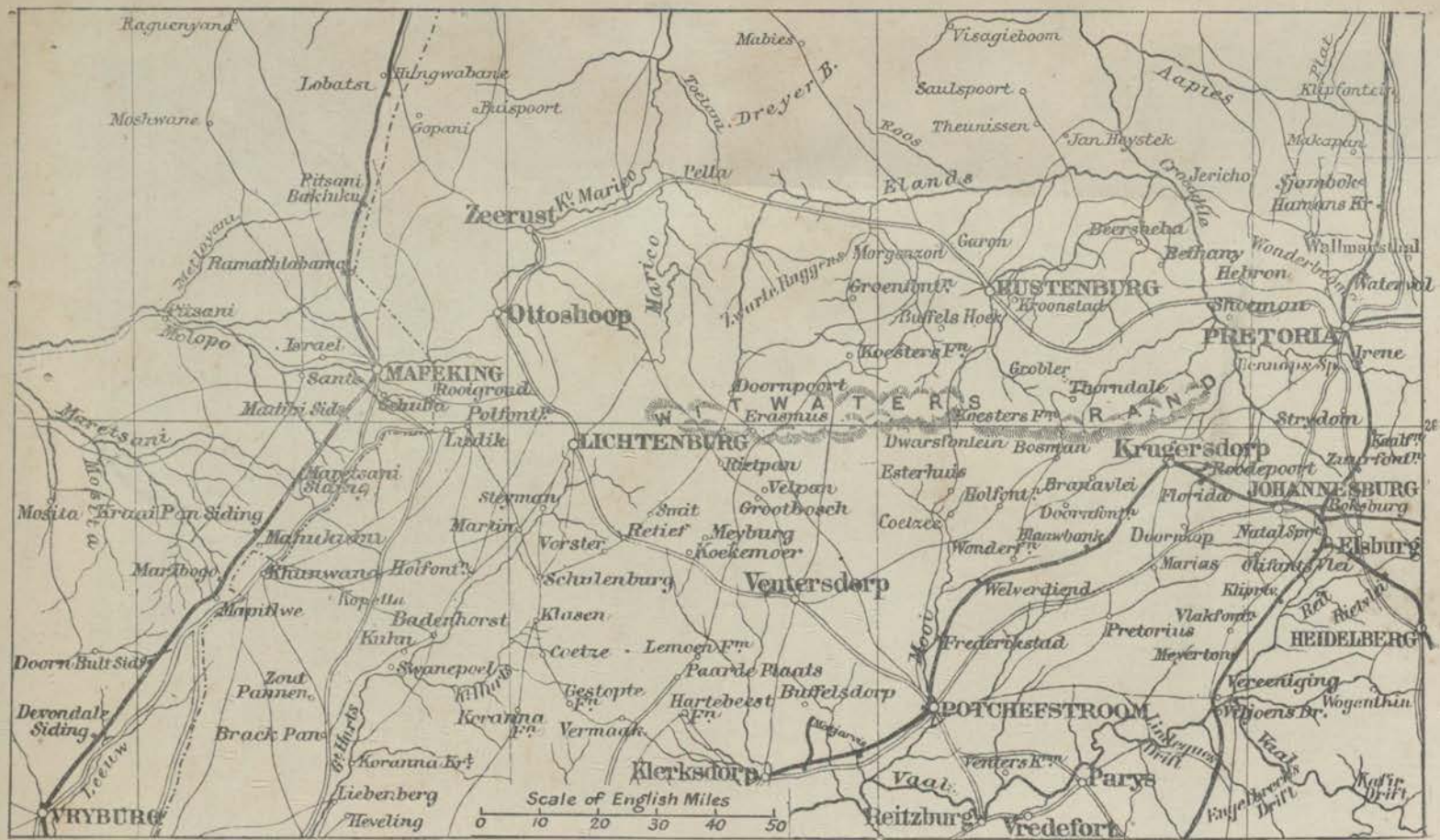
Photo TYPICAL TRANSPORT. "Navy and Army
Bullock Waggon Crossing a Drift

Photo JOHANNESBURG VOLUNTEER CAVALRY. "Navy and Army.
A Patrol in Swaziland.

It is quite possible that the Uitlanders would have cared little for the franchise if they had not suffered from grievances which they hoped to remove by the possession of political power. But they were fleeced indirectly and directly. A dynamite monopoly, which is of at least doubtful legality according to the Convention of 1884, raises the price of an article of primary necessity for the mines to an extortionate figure. The mass of taxes—all of them, in fact, except a very small part—have been paid by the Uitlanders, and the amount raised was in excess of the necessities of the State. In regard to the expenditure of this revenue, the proportions have been reversed. The Uitlanders see very little of it, and the Boers a great deal. Much of it has gone in arms, much is suspected to have gone in corruption, or to have been plundered by the managing men who in many cases are not Boers, but Hollanders, about Mr. Kruger. The Uitlanders cannot even get their children taught in English, though both languages are used in the State schools in the Cape. As it must not be forgotten that the great majority of English-speaking Uitlanders are not rich men at all, this is a real grievance. In every way, too, Johannesburg is ill-administered and ill-policed, though the taxes paid are heavy. This we mean represented the state of things before the war brought about an almost total suspension of industry, and a general flight from the town. Meanwhile the anti-English feeling shown by the Boers grew stronger and stronger, and was shown in ever more aggressive ways. It included even the men of Dutch descent in Cape Colony. It required an emphatic threat, in which the Afrikander population of the Cape joined, to prevent Mr. Kruger from putting serious obstacles in the way of trade by closing the fords on Vaal River.

Photo ROUGH RIDERS. W. Edwardes.
A local levy of Mounted Infantry.

Photo MR. CECIL RHODES. Downey.



STRATEGIC POINTS; PRETORIA AND MAFEKING.

(Reproduced by permission from Bacon's War Map.)

Photo FORT TULI, RHODESIA. Temple.
Where Col. Plumer's Force was concentrated.

V. The Raid and Afterwards.

All this could not possibly go on without leading to a collision. As a matter of fact, the crisis which has now come to a head would have occurred earlier but for the unauthorised, and still not wholly explained, conduct of certain headlong persons in December, 1895. Petitions for reform had been presented to the Raad in 1894, and again in that year. During '94 Lord Loch, the High Commissioner, visited Pretoria on business connected with the closing of the fords or drifts, and the exemption of British subjects from compulsory service or commando. He had then represented the grievances of the Uitlanders, and was a witness to the contempt with which they were treated by the Raad. He had heard of, and reported, schemes for a rising at Johannesburg. Lord Loch contrived to "damp down" this venture—if, indeed, it was seriously entertained—for a time. Yet he knew, and Mr. Kruger ought to have known, that a remedy must be found for the agitation in the Transvaal, and that if it did not come by the free act of the

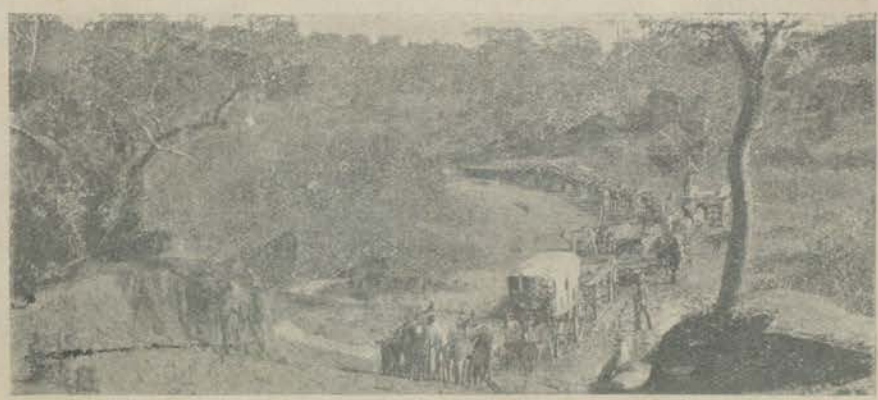


Photo IN MATABELELAND. Temple.
Crossing a Drift with Mules.

Boers, then it would come by pressure from without, or by explosion from within.

The story has now come to the famous raid which began on December 29, 1895, and ended with such dramatic suddenness. In spite of almost infinite comment, of one trial at Pretoria, and another in London, and of a Parliamentary inquiry, there is most assuredly a good deal to learn about this adventure, which will probably not be made public in our time, if ever. We do know that a conspiracy was on foot, and was being directed from more than one place. Mr. Rhodes, who was then Premier at the Cape, was one director, and there were others at Johannesburg. Dr. Jameson, who was at the head of the Chartered Company's police at Mafeking on the Bechuanaland border, was also

Photo Edwardes.
FLORAL SOUTH AFRICA.
A Rose Garden in Barberton.

concerned, and the three did not work together. Johannesburg did not co-operate heartily with the other two, and Dr. Jameson co-operated too much. What is certain is that he rode over the border with a force formed for the occasion, but not composed of the hardened materials required for the work. He and his colleague, Sir John Willoughby, had apparently relied too much on help from Johannesburg, or had vastly underrated their enemies. Mr. Kruger, in the meantime, was on the watch, waiting, in his own famous phrase, till the tortoise put its head out to cut it off. The process of decapitation was very rapid. The raiders reached Krugersdorp, to the west of Johannesburg, on January 1. They had received, and had disregarded, a summons of recall

Photo "Navy and Army.
AMONG THE MASHONAS.
The British South Africa Police.

on the way. At Krugersdorp they were stopped by a Boer commando which had rapidly met to oppose them. No help came from Johannesburg. The men were tired, and being in many cases but young and unhardened, became dispirited. Next day, and after confused skirmishing, which never seems to have risen to the dignity of a fight, they all surrendered. The inaction of Johannesburg has been variously explained, but, on the whole, one comes to the conclusion that the conspiracy was far better provided with general staff than with rank and file and with definite cause. The chiefs were not quite candid as to the purpose for which they meant to make their revolution—whether only to secure redress of grievances, or to bring about the reannexation to Her Majesty's dominions. Hence, at the last moment, suspicions were aroused among those of the Uitlanders who were not British subjects. Neither does it appear that the

Photo Navy and Army.
AT UMTALI, RHODESIA.
The Municipal Police.

miners and other workmen, who ought to have formed the rank and file of the movement, were in the least disposed to fight. The Cornish miners, who formed a large proportion of them, showed most emphatically that they did not consider they had been hired for any such purpose.

Mr. Kruger did not take a vindictive revenge for this attack. The various terms of fine and imprisonment which were inflicted on the local leaders were not immoderate punishments for men who had attacked the Government and had failed. The British Government vindicated its own good faith by bringing Dr. Jameson, Major Sir John Willoughby, Captain the Hon. Robert White, Colonel Grey, Major the Hon. H. F. White, and Major the Hon. C. J. Coventry to trial for an offence against the Foreign Enlistment Act, and they were sentenced to imprisonment. But the results of their error could not end with this. Mr. Rhodes was, for a time at least, ruined politically. An angry feeling was aroused among the Cape Colonists of Dutch descent, and what was worst of all for the Uitlanders was that the mouth of Her Majesty's Government was shut for the time being. The Parliamentary inquiry did, indeed, fail to reveal any evidence that Ministers had the least knowledge of what was about to happen, and went to show clearly enough that the Queen's officers on the spot had been deceived. Yet after such an action on the part of British subjects the Government could not well take measures against Mr. Kruger at once.

The Boer Government had now a last chance. Under the stress of the raid Mr. Kruger had given Sir Hercules Robinson (Lord Rosmead), the High Commissioner, promises of reform. These he has not fulfilled. Indeed, the Boer ruler has hardened his heart, and has doggedly refused to remove a single grievance. On the contrary, his Government has grown more obstinate than ever, and Mr. Kruger's one answer to complaints has been that they were the work of factious men, and of enemies of the State hired by capitalists. From that position neither argument nor evidence has been able to drive him. The British Government was not bound to be silent indefinitely because Dr. Jameson and others had made mischief. Yet it gave the Boers a good interval of grace. The attention, too, of the Government was turned in these years to another part of Africa, to the Nile Valley, namely, where other and more pressing matters had to be settled. But after Omdurman and Fashoda its hands were again free, and at last the redress of the Uitlanders' grievances was taken up resolutely.

Photo ULTIMA THULE. Temple.
The Northernmost point of British South Africa.

The history of the negotiations which began with the Bloemfontein Conference and ended by the presentation of a violently worded Boer ultimatum is too recent, and is too much made up of offers and counter offers, concessions clogged with conditions, and real or alleged misunderstandings, to be told

Photo ON THE TRANSVAAL BORDER. Temple.
Khama's Country, Bechuanaland.

at length. In the beginning Sir A. Milner, the High Commissioner, asked for a five years' franchise—that is to say, a return to the practice which existed between 1882 and 1893, but with the understanding that the Boers were still to retain a large majority in the First Raad, the only legislative chamber which has any real power. Mr. Kruger refused to agree to these terms. He has since, by successive steps, conceded quite as much, but with the introduction of provisoes which would amount to the resignation by Her Majesty's Government of all claim to superiority over the Transvaal. It is upon this point that the final split has come. The Transvaal has, in fact, been striving for complete independence, and has been making use of its power to squeeze the Uitlanders as a weapon for extorting its freedom from the authority of the Crown.

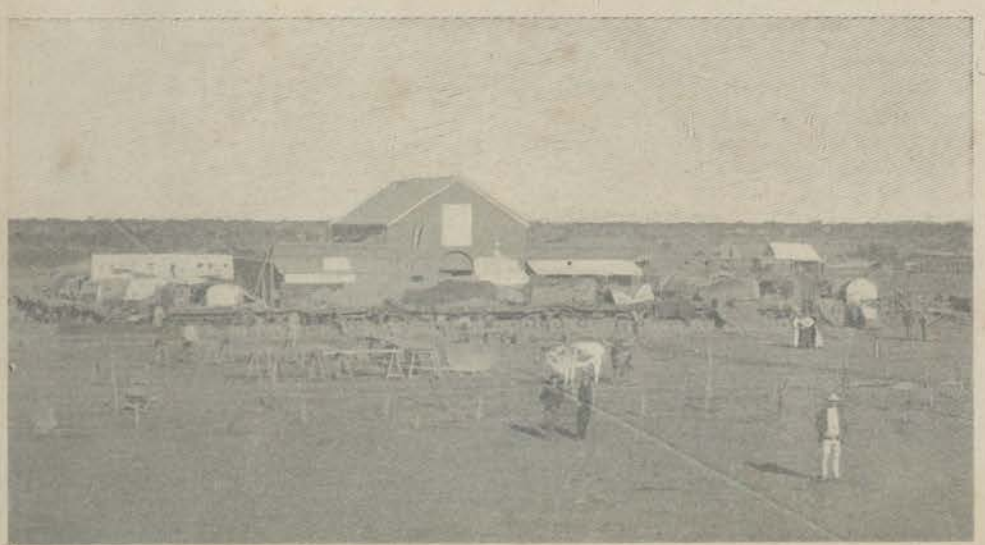


Photo PREPARED FOR A SURPRISE. Temple.
The Main Laager, Buluwayo

Photo SIR REDVERS BULLER EMBARKS. Knight.
Boarding the "Dunottar Castle" at Southampton.

Under the Union Jack.

By CAPTAIN OWEN WHEELER.

Chapter I.
Military South Africa Before the War.

"What is won by the sword must be held by the sword" is one of those doubtful maxims which, if too rigidly adhered to in practice, may bring about not only a deal of human misery, but also serious diminution of an empire's greatness. Still, open to argument as they are, these words contain a notable germ of truth, more especially when what is to be held is the paramountcy among a number of very diverse and, potentially, warlike communities. In South Africa the position is not, of course, what it is in India, which is not a country but a continent, inhabited by many peoples utterly unlike in religion and temperament, to many of whom the sword is the only argument that appeals with any degree of force. Yet even in South Africa, the problem of holding what we have without inordinate expenditure, or burden of taxation, local and otherwise, is a complex one. It can only be fully understood by a more careful investigation of civil and political aspects than can be given to it here, but a brief glance at the salient military considerations involved will at least be partially instructive, besides paving the way to an exact comprehension of the incidents and likely results of the Second Boer War.

Numerically considered, the military factors before the War might have been ranged in the following order. First, we had the native tribes, whose number can only be approximately set down at some four millions, including from two to five hundred thousand appreciable fighting men scattered over a very wide area, from Matabeleland in the north-west, to Pondoland in the

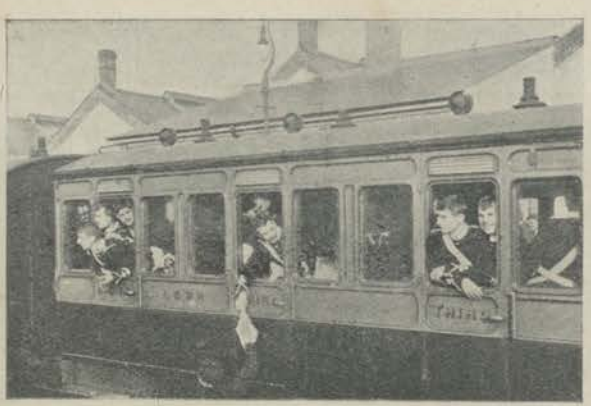


Photo A HAPPY TRAINFUL. Knight.
A.S.C. leaving Aldershot for Southampton.

south-east. Zulus, Basutos, Swazis, Bechuanas, *hoc genus omne*, are fairly familiar names to English readers, and, for the purposes of this sketch, no detailed description need be given of their military strength and organisation. Still, as both we and the Boers—not to mention the Portuguese—have found to our cost, they are to be eckoned with, and the Paramount Power which is not prepared to deal with a native rising on an extended scale is not likely to retain its paramountcy for long.

After the natives, in the first half of 1899, the Boer inhabitants of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State represented the greatest number of fighting men of one race who could be put, at short notice, into the field. At the back of these was a problematical number of "Cape Dutch," who might be expected to join the forces of the two Republics against England if, at the outset of a war, the latter should have suffered any serious reverse. Numerically next to the Boers were the Local Forces of Cape Colony and Natal; then the British Regular garrisons, backed up by the Naval station at Simonstown; and finally a sprinkling of Portuguese at Beira and

Photo AN EMBARKATION. Cribb.
Army Pay Corps leaving for the Cape.

Lourenço Marques. It is not necessary to treat all these factors in detail, nor in the order given. But it is essential to the proper understanding of the military future, as well as the military past and present, of South Africa, that we should give careful attention to what was the state, at the beginning of the War, of (1) the Regular Garrisons, (2) the Colonial or Local Forces, and (3) the forces of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State.

I.—British Regular Garrisons.

On January 1, 1889, the Regular Forces in South Africa consisted of two regiments of cavalry, three field batteries, one mountain battery, three companies of garrison artillery, four companies of Royal Engineers, six and a half battalions of infantry, two mountain battery, a detachment of Engineers, three battalions of infantry, and detachments of Departmental Corps. The three stations in Natal which were ordinarily garrisoned by Regular troops were the capital, Pietermaritzburg; Ladysmith, which, in its way, was a sort of South African Aldershot; and Eshowe, in the neighbouring province of Zululand, which, for administrative purposes, is part of Natal. Fort Napier was also used as an Artillery camp.

Roughly speaking, it may be said that at the beginning of 1899 there were only about 5,000 British Regular troops in Natal, and about 3,000 in Cape Colony. These, however, were all in the pink of condition, having undergone a quantity of useful training

Photo TO TEND THE SICK AND WOUNDED. Knight
R.A.M.C. about to leave Aldershot.

detachments of the Army Service Corps, two detachments of the Royal Army Medical Corps, and two detachments of the Army Ordnance Corps.

The forces in Cape Colony were commanded by a Lieutenant-General, but were inferior as regards the number of regular troops to those in Natal. They consisted of two companies of garrison artillery, the headquarters of a fortress company of Royal Engineers, three and a half battalions of infantry, and detachments of Army Service, Royal Army Medical, and Ordnance Corps.

In Natal the chief military command was that of a Brigadier-General with temporary rank as Major-General. Under him this officer had two cavalry regiments, three field batteries and one

in local manœuvres, and being otherwise admirably fit for immediate hard service. There was also a large quantity of ammunition and other warlike stores already in the country, a considerable "levelling up" in this respect having taken place, in view of possible contingencies, immediately after the Jameson Raid. At the same time, of course, such a garrison was hopelessly insufficient to cope with any great emergency, and might very possibly have been overwhelmed had the Boers displayed, at an earlier stage of the proceedings, the recklessness which characterised some of their later performances.

II.—The Local Forces.

It is with a good deal of genuine pride and satisfaction that one contem-

plates the Local forces in almost any corner of the British Empire, and those of Cape Colony and Natal certainly afford no exception to the general rule. There is no question that here we have Volunteering in almost its highest form, since such a large proportion of the citizen soldiers at the Cape are not only in physique and training all that could be desired, but have also graduated in the stern school of active service. Apart, too, from the Volunteers, Cape Colony possesses an admirable little permanent force, while both here and at the Cape are strong bodies of military police, extremely efficient from the military standpoint, and, of course, knowing the country and its inhabitants thoroughly.

In Cape Colony the place of honour among the local forces is held by the Cape Mounted Riflemen, formerly a police force which did good work against the Kaffirs and Hottentots, but reorganised on its present basis in 1878 as the only permanent military force in the Colony. The corps contains 35

Photo MAKING THE BEST OF IT. Cribb.
Just before "Ours" embarks.

officers and about 1,000 rank and file, recruits being for the most part obtained in England. There is an artillery troop as well as the mounted infantry squadrons, and the headquarters are at Umtata, in Pondoland. But the corps is a good deal scattered, some of the out-stations being 150 miles distant The corps has a V.C. among the officers, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Hartley, who won the Cross for cool and gallant treatment of a comrade under fire at Morosi's Mountain. But at one time no fewer than five of these decorations, dearest of all to a soldier, were to be found in the C.M.R., which is always to the fore when any fighting in South Africa is in progress.

Next to the Cape Mounted Riflemen the Cape Police occupy a leading position among the Local Forces of Cape Colony. This is a strong body, mostly composed of Europeans, and numbering nearly 2,000 men, permanently embodied, and so available for immediate active service as well as for military police duties. The Cape Police took part in the suppression of

Photo ON THE POINT OF STARTING. Cribb.
"Braemar Castle" taking on the Mails.

Photo Knight.

THE RIGHT HON GENERAL SIR REDVERS BULLER, V.C., G.C.B., &c., &c.,

General and Commander-in-Chief in South Africa. The latest portrait taken before his departure for South Africa. The uniform is that of Col.-Commandant of the King's Royal Rifle Corps.

AN EMBARKATION AT BOMBAY.

Photo ENTRAINING HORSES. "Navy and Army."
19th Hussars leaving Secunderabad.

the Bechuanaland Rebellion in 1897, and is a notably efficient force, smart and soldierly to a degree.

An exhaustive account of the Cape Colony Volunteers would occupy a great deal more space than can be afforded here. But a word must be given to a few prominent corps, such as the Diamond Fields Horse, which have their headquarters at Kimberley, and the Transkei Mounted Rifles, which in an unobtrusive, but none the less practical, fashion, keep watch and ward over Fingoland; the Duke of Edinburgh's Own Volunteer Rifles and the Cape Town Highlanders at Cape Town; Prince Alfred's Volunteer Guards at Port Elizabeth and the First City Volunteers at Grahamstown, both of which saw service in the suppression of the Bechuanaland Rebellion; and the Kimberley Rifles. In all there were, at the beginning of 1899, some 44 Volunteer corps and rifle clubs in

Photo MARCHING OFF. Navy and Army.
A Cavalry Regiment detraining

Cape Colony, numbering about 7,000 men with 11 guns.

Turning to Natal, we find a much smaller local contingent, but still one which ranked high for downright efficiency and fighting value, as has been proved in the early stages of the Boer War. Here there was, at the time in question, no permanent local military force, but the Natal Mounted Police, numbering 550, Europeans, admirably equipped, was to all intents and purposes a local regiment of cavalry. The Volunteers in Natal were of the "partially paid" order—that is to say, they received pay for the time they are out for training, together with certain other small subventions. They included a naval corps of ninety men, which had its headquarters at Durban; between 800 and 900 mounted riflemen—the Natal Carabineers were in evidence at a very early stage of the fighting—a field battery; and an infantry battalion, the Durban Light Infantry, the whole being mobilised at the commencement of the War. A feature of the Volunteer system in Natal is the compulsory military education in the Government schools, which has resulted in the formation of cadet corps containing over 2,000 promising young riflemen.

In addition to the Local Forces of Cape Colony and Natal, there was the British South Africa Police, with headquarters at Fort Salisbury, in Mashonaland, under the command of Captain Nicholson, of the 7th Hussars, there are five Mashonaland Police districts, and the force possesses a very fair field, mountain, and machine gun armament. The police, which consist of European troopers armed with Lee-Metfords, and a native contingent armed with Martini-Henrys, are distributed among various forts, and constitute a splendid safeguard against native risings. There is also a Division of the British South Africa Police in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, consisting of ten officers and 130 rank and file, as well as a force of native police with four officers. The British South Africa Police is essentially a seasoned corps, almost all the officers, non-commissioned officers and men wearing the medal for the suppression of the Matabele revolt in 1896 with the clasp for 1897, while the corps can also boast a V.C., a C.M.G., and a D.S.O.

Photo 1st BORDER REGIMENT Ellis
On Parade at Floriana, Malta.

III.—The Armed Strength of the Boer Republics.

At the beginning of 1899 popular ideas of the military power of the Transvaal and of the Orange Free State were very cloudy, very various, and generally most inaccurate. Many were contented with a hazy retrospect of the military methods adopted by the Boers in 1881, and habitually ignored the progress which, even in a State like the Transvaal, can hardly escape being

made in matters connected with military self-defence. Others largely magnified the addition which had been made to the resources of both the Boer Republics by the purchase of stocks of war material and the employment of foreign military instructors, regardless of the fact that something besides guns and a small modicum of teaching are required to produce real military efficiency. Between these two points lay the truth, which has been further revealed in a very comprehensive and instructive fashion by the incidents immediately following the delivery of the absurd war "ultimatum," which called upon Great Britain to slink away from the Transvaal borders like a whipped hound, or take the direful consequences.

In effect the Boer military system was a curious blend of complete militarism, and an entire absence of any system at all worth mentioning. The basis of the plan upon which the two Republics waged war was universal liability to service when called upon, or, as it is locally termed, "commandeered." There were certain points of concentration and certain appointed "Field Cornets," and on an emergency all

Photo Knight.

BOARDSHIP LIFE.
A Snug Corner on a Transport.

that was done was to issue a general call to arms, on receiving which the individual burgher took his rifle and enough cartridges and "biltong" to last him some days, and mounting his pony galloped off to the rendezvous. In the field the Boer burgher acted either as a member of a commando, numbering anything between a hundred or two or three thousand, or individually as a scout. Wonderfully mobile, being admirably mounted on an animal trained to "fend for itself," and to be ready at a moment's notice, in case his master should want to gallop off to another position, the Boer burgher of the old type was almost a pattern mounted infantryman, and when, in addition, he happened, as was not invariably the case, to be a first-rate

Photo Knight

GETTING THEIR SEA LEGS.
On board the "Braemar Castle."

shot, he was a dangerous antagonist, especially when acting on the defensive against an enemy that did not know the country one-tenth as well as he did. Firing steadily from behind cover, he waited until an advance is made, and then galloping to another hillock, took up a fresh position and commenced firing again, seldom wasting a shot, and still more seldom exposing his own precious person. Hardy and caring nothing for the ordinary comforts, not to say decencies, of civilised life, the average privations of a campaign troubled the Boer but little, and in many cases were positively less harassing than those which he had undergone in the peaceful trek in search of quarters or a new home.

But with all these soldierly qualifications, the Boer burgher was by no means an ideal fighting man. His great fault was want of discipline, and instances had frequently occurred in which he had come to blows with his field cornet, and otherwise behaved in a grossly insubordinate fashion. As regards the ordinary rules of fighting, he was most unscrupulous. The attack on the 94th Regiment at Bronkhorst Spruit was an

outrage of which Turkey might have been ashamed, the behaviour of Commandant Cronje, who kept back the news of the armistice in order to obtain the surrender of Potchefstroom, was that of an infamous scoundrel, and not once but several times the pious God-fearing peasants of the Transvaal had fired upon the Red Cross.

When acting in large bodies in the field the Boers were naturally handicapped by the want of any organised system of transport and supply. It is said that in the War they have suffered considerably from this cause, as indeed must any troops who cannot live upon savage fare and either endure privations with the stoicism of a Zulu, or forage for themselves after the older methods of the Cossacks. Finally the Boers, as soldiers, have the serious drawback of being martyrs to home-sickness. Deeply attached to their homesteads, they soon begin to be weary of a campaign, and on very slight provocation, unless restrained by a strong hand or the chance of inflicting special damage on a hated enemy, a commandeered burgher will make his way to his beloved farm and resume his agricultural duties with very little heed for the state of war all round him.

Apart from the burghers the Transvaal possessed but one permanent force of which no accurate statistics are, up to date, available. This was the "Staats Artillerie," divided into horse, field, and garrison artillery, capitally mounted and armed with modern quick-firing guns, which, however, after the experience of the Glencoe fighting it may be gathered that they are not particularly expert in handling. For service the Staats Artilleryman wore a khaki Bedford-cord uniform with a large slouch hat, but in full dress he was resplendent in a white helmet with drooping plumes, and his appearance is described as resembling that of a Black Hussar. The weak point of the corps was the deficiency of technical knowledge among the officers, few if any of them having sufficient to qualify them for a commission in any European army.

It was not generally known till the commencement of the War that the Transvaal possessed a considerable, Volunteer force, separate corps being formed at Johannesburg, Pretoria, Krugersdorp, and Ermelo. Of these

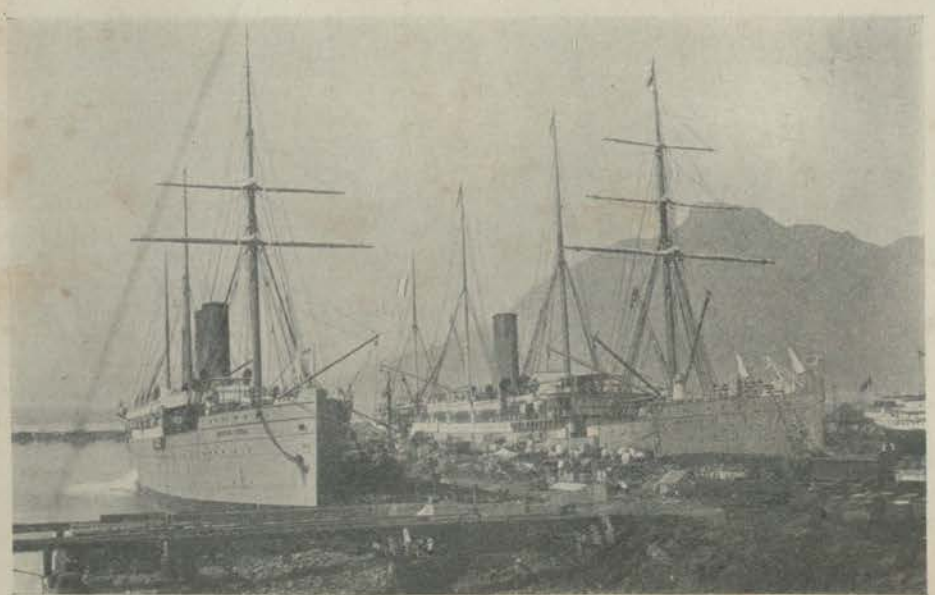


Photo A BRACE OF CASTLE LINERS. Wilson
In the Docks, Cape Town.

Photo A SOUTH AFRICAN HANSOM Edwardes.
This one is happily named the "Never Flinch."

the Johannesburg corps was the most prominent, and included about 200 cavalry, mostly Afrikanders, and a polyglot collection of about 800 infantry, Germans, Frenchmen, Russians, Italians, Spaniards, and a few English, all under very fair discipline and reasonably efficient. The Transvaal Volunteers were instituted in 1894, the Johannesburg Corps being disbanded, and subsequently reformed, but not, it would seem, with any very impressive results so far as the operations against the British are concerned.

In connection with the armed strength of the Transvaal, mention must be made of the defences of Pretoria, which consisted of half-a-dozen forts of the most approved modern construction, built under the direction of French and Dutch engineers, and armed with some heavy modern artillery.

Of the military forces of the Orange Free State there is little to be said. The burgher system was the same as that of the Transvaal, there were no volunteers, and the only organised force was an artillery corps which with its reserve numbered about 800, and had a few modern guns.

As regards the total number of men which the Transvaal and the Orange Free State could put into the field opinions varied very considerably, and even now there is no means of forming any very accurate estimate. By many good judges the total was thought not

Photo LIGHT INFANTRY Symons.
Shropshire L.I. Recruits showing Kits.

to exceed some 15,000 from the Transvaal and about 8,000 from the Orange Free State, but this is probably an unduly low estimate. Perhaps if we put the Transvaal forces at 20,000 and those of the sister Republic at 12,000, we should not be very far from the mark.

Photo THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS Ellis.
Adjutant, Drums, and Regimental Goat.

Chapter II.

The Shadow of War.

Without entering into details of political rather than military interest, it may be briefly recalled that, about the middle of August, 1899, it began to be evident, even to the British public, which about that time was chiefly absorbed in cricket and the chances for and against the recapture of the America Cup by Shamrock, that the shadow of war was lying aslant the national path. For some time past those who study these things had been aware that gradually, almost insensibly, the military authorities had been stiffening our resources in South Africa by sending out large consignments of war material, and increasing the local detail of Royal Engineers and Army Service Corps, steps which could be taken without exciting any undue attention. Such measures, moreover, were more than fully justified by the extravagant purchases by the Boers of arms and ammunition on the Continent as well as by their general attitude of defiant insolence. But in the first fortnight of August a sudden change came over the situation, and there commenced on our part a process of gradual reinforcement which, as events have proved, was both quietly and smoothly carried out, and splendidly effectual in its results.

The machinery was set in motion by an appeal from Natal for an increase of her garrison, in view, not only of the attitude of the Transvaal, but also of possible contingencies in the shape of native disturbances. The appeal was promptly responded to. The 1st Liverpool Regiment, then at the Cape, was despatched by steamer to Durban, and two battalions, one from Gibraltar, the other from home, were immediately ordered out to South Africa, the 1st Manchesters going to Durban to still further increase the forces in Natal, and the 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers taking the place of the 1st Liverpools at the Cape.

Photo BRINGING UP THE MACHINE GUN. Knight
With the Mounted Infantry at Aldershot.

The public mind was naturally stirred a little by these significant movements, and still more so by the stormy progress of the negotiations with the Transvaal, which culminated some three

Photo DURBAN. "Navy and Army.

The Landing Stage, with the Berea in the distance.

weeks later in the Cabinet Council of September 8. This may be regarded as one of the veritable turning-points in the long devious route which led to the outbreak of the Second Boer War, and brought a British Army Corps within striking distance of the capitals of the two South African Republics.

The immediate results of the Cabinet Council of September 8 were comprehensive and sensational. Many weeks back the Government had asked the new Viceroy of India whether, if an emergency arose in regard to South Africa, India could spare an appreciable number of British troops. Lord Curzon, in consultation with his councillors, at once responded in the affirmative, and indicated the size of the Contingent which could be despatched at short notice with, as Mr. Sam Weller would say, "another o' the same di-mensions" to follow if required. Fortified by this assurance, and by the preparedness of the War Office in other directions to cope with the situation, the Cabinet Council was able to formulate a definite and impressive line of action. On the morning of September 9 it was known that

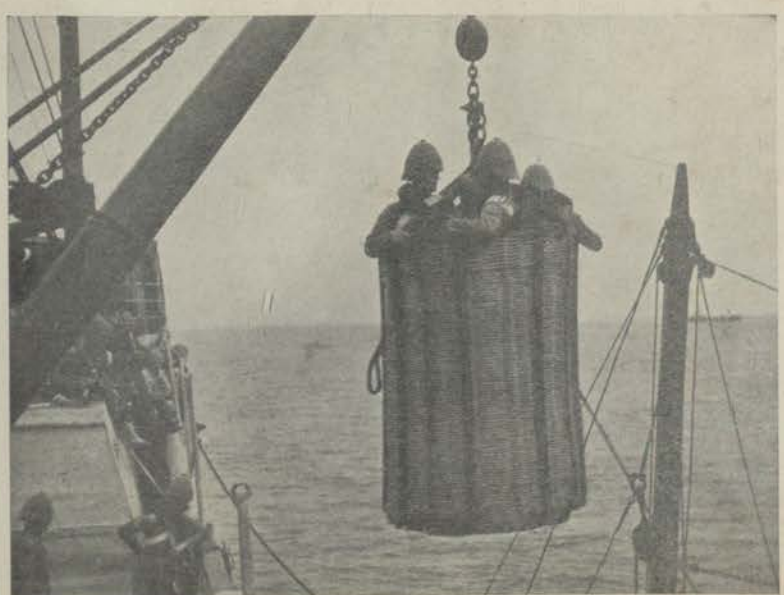


Photo FROM TRANSPORT TO TENDER. Navy and Army.

How Troops are landed at Durban.

the British troops in South Africa were to be immediately increased by over 10,000 men, of whom about 7,000 were to be furnished by India, while single battalions were also to be despatched from Aldershot, Cairo, Malta, and Crete, and three field batteries from Aldershot.

Coincidently with this really extensive reinforcement another important step was taken which has already had an important influence upon the progress of the war. We have already seen that the troops in Natal were under the command of a brigadier-general, with temporary rank as major-general, the actual holder of the appointment being the late Sir William Penn Symons, who was subsequently mortally wounded in the hour of his triumph at the Battle of Glencoe. Gallant, tactful, and experienced as this officer was, it was felt that the extraordinary increase of the garrison in Natal necessitated the appointment of an officer of very high rank and altogether exceptional qualifications to the chief command in this important quarter. Lieutenant-General Sir George White, the ex-Commander-in-Chief in India, who had recently vacated the Quartermaster-Generalship at Army Headquarters, had not yet taken up his new appointment as

Photo "Navy and Army."

A BAGGAGE GUARD.
5th Dragoon Guards at Deolali.

Photo CAVALRY CAMPAIGNING. Knight.

Method of carrying a day's forage.

Photo "Navy and Army.

AMMUNITION MULES
On Field Service in Natal.

Governor of Gibraltar, and was, therefore, immediately available. Not only could no better man have been found, but an added argument in favour of the selection lay in the fact that Sir W. P. Symons had been closely associated with Sir George White in Burma, and would, therefore, welcome him as an old chief and friend. Incidentally it was arranged that, pending the despatch of the larger force which, it was already beginning to be understood, would almost certainly be despatched under Sir Redvers Buller, Major-General Sir Archibald Hunter, "Archie" of Omdurman fame, should leave India with the Contingent, and, for the present, act as Sir George White's Chief of the Staff in Natal.

Bechuanaland local forces which should not only largely discount the possibility of native risings in these rather tumultuous regions, but also prove extremely handy in the event of hostilities with the Transvaal. How admirably this commission was executed will be apparent from the subsequent course of events.

Reverting to the despatch of the Indian Contingent and the reinforcements from home and the Mediterranean, it will be apprehended by the thoughtful reader that here was a movement not only of some magnitude, but also of very real and far-reaching significance. We have for many years regarded our Mediterranean garrisons, more especially during

Photo IN BADEN-POWELL'S COUNTRY. Edwardes.
The Mafeking Coach, en route.

While these important and, to some extent, warlike measures were being adopted at home, a singularly interesting and practical development was taking place in a corner of South Africa far remote from the threatened frontiers of Natal. At the time the first reinforcements were sent out certain Special Service officers were despatched, among them being Colonel Baden-Powell and Lieutenant-Colonel Plumer, both officers of considerable South African experience who had gained a high reputation for their work in the suppression of the Matabele revolt. To these officers was entrusted a highly important commission, that, namely, of organising in Rhodesia and British

the trooping season, as affording a ready means of sending a few battalions here and there at short notice, and, equally, this was not the first time that we had drawn upon India for a Contingent for Imperial service. In 1878 Lord Beaconsfield had brought a body of native troops from India to Malta by way of demonstrating that England was not only an European, but also, to use his favourite formula, an Asiatic Power. In 1882, again, the revolt of Arabi Pasha had brought a mixed British and native Contingent to Egypt under command of the late Major-General Sir Herbert Macpherson. But the swift despatch from Bombay and Calcutta of a force of 7,000 British troops

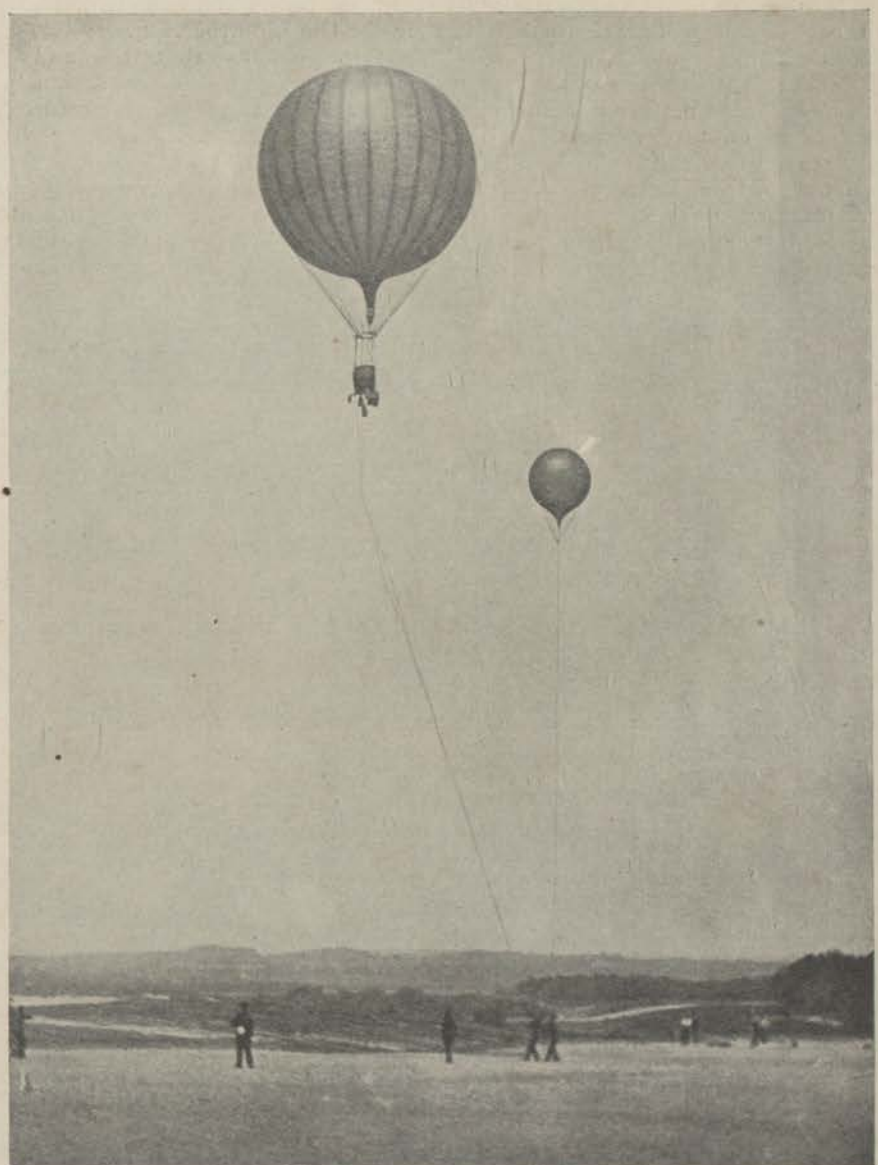


Photo WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FROM WAR BALLOONS Knight

in absolutely the pink of fighting condition, to stiffen a British garrison in South Africa, was an object lesson which we may be sure was not wasted upon Continental minds, even if it was but obscurely appreciated by those for whose immediate benefit it was delivered.

The actual embarkation of the Indian Contingent was a performance of which the Indian military authorities had every reason to be proud. The force consisted of three cavalry regiments, four infantry battalions, and three batteries of field artillery, with departmental details, and these units were drawn, in accordance with the system of army organisation which has prevailed in India since 1895, from all the four great Indian army commands.

carried out with clockwork precision in the month of September, a specially warm burst of public feeling being occasioned by the departure of Sir George White on the Tantallon Castle, and of the Northumberland Fusiliers in the Gaul, on the 16th.

It was thus that England rose calmly, but none the less seriously, to the realisation of the task before her. Black as was the shadow which the coming event was casting before, there was no disposition on the part of the great body of the British public to view it otherwise than as something not to be avoided but to be squarely faced. To the strong, cool attitude of the British Government at this juncture, as well as to the ability of the War Office not only to make plans, but to

Photo FORT NAPIER, NATAL. Armstrong.
Used as an Artillery Camp.

The embarkations, however, with two exceptions, took place at Bombay, and it is grandly illustrative of the condition of efficiency and preparedness which exists in the Quartermaster-General's Department at that port that, practically speaking, within a week the entire Contingent, with all its varied stores, should have been put on board ship and sent speeding away.

Of the despatch of the remaining battalions and batteries from home and the Mediterranean it is needless to speak in detail. It is sufficient to say that, with the exception of a trifling delay in connection with the transport of the three artillery batteries, the embarkation of all the units comprising the second reinforcement of the British troops in South Africa was

carry them out, is chiefly due such measure of success as fell to the British arms at a later stage of this eventful story.

In this connection it is only fair, to both the Ministry and the military authorities, to point out that the problem of reinforcement of our garrison in South Africa was rendered peculiarly difficult by political considerations. Any military precautions that were necessary could only be taken very gradually, and in the least disturbing manner possible. For not only was it desirable to consult, to some extent, the susceptibilities of the Transvaal, but there was no need to fan prematurely into a flame the kindling resentment always visible on the Continent whenever Perfidious Albion seeks to assert herself by force of arms.

Photo INDIAN TRANSPORT. "Navy and Army."
Regimental Baggage Carts.

Chapter III.

The Strategical Situation.

It is desirable at this point, now that we have discussed the military forces on both sides, and the special preparations which this country was compelled to make in view of the unsatisfactory attitude of the Transvaal towards our studiously moderate requirements, that we should take into consideration the lines on which a possible war would be conducted. It will have been seen that, from our standpoint, the position was a peculiarly delicate one. We were obviously, at the outset of the tangled negotiation which followed the Bloemfontein Conference, in a condition of distinct inferiority as regards the ability to strike an immediate blow. With a comparatively small force of regular troops, we had to rely, for the rest, chiefly on local resources, which, however excellent the material, and however admirable the spirit which inspired

Photo A COMPANY'S BAGGAGE Pittuck.
Army Service Corps Waggon leaving Barracks.

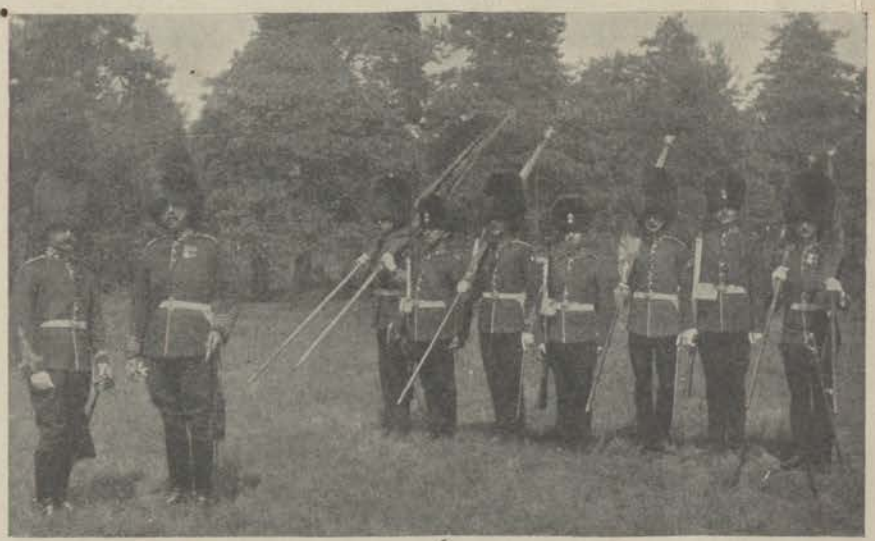
it, was as yet in a state of questionable efficiency so far as organisation and, above all, cohesion were concerned. Indeed, it is not too much to say that if the Transvaal had behaved in August with the same disregard of logic and formality which it displayed in October, we should have suffered a series of blows to which it would have given us a deal of trouble to subsequently deliver a counterstroke.

But from the first we were in a position of great moral superiority, in that we were not only a Power of infinitely greater resources than the Transvaal, but also the Power which had the real grip in the shape of a light but still existent cordon of territory and influence drawn almost entirely around the two Boer Republics. To the north and west lay Rhodesia and British Bechuanaland, to the south Cape Colony, to the east Natal, with a hint of British superior influence at

Photo MOUNTED INFANTRY. Knight.
A Highlander Company.

Photo THE GUARDS. Cumming.
Battalion on the March in England.

Photo "SCOTLAND FOR EVER!" Gregory
The Royal Scots Greys (2nd Dragoons)



Phot ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS. J. David.
Colonel, Adjutant, and 3 Sets of Colours.

Beira and Lourenço Marques. Of course, at any point of this cordon, with the exception of the wedge of Natal, which runs up between the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, and has its apex at Charlestown, it would have been possible, nay, easy, for the Boers to break through with little prospect of resistance. Still, a cordon, however loosely drawn, is a cordon, and its influence was, perhaps, all the more strongly marked in this case because the Boers themselves are strongly inclined to any form of strategical envelopment.

Another and, perhaps, the strongest point of all in our favour was the circumstance that, not only were we presumably in a position to hold our own against the Boers until help should come from home and India, not only could we be certain of eventually pulverising the forces of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, if we wished

to do so, into fine dust, but there was literally no one in the wide world to prevent us from taking what steps we might deem necessary to the fulfilment of our requirements. As Mistress of the Seas, Great Britain knew that the chances of any interference between her and the Boers were remote, and if such interference had been forthcoming she was prepared to deal with it. The Command of the Sea is a catchword nowadays, which even the Man in the Street is beginning to comprehend. But its public appreciation as a potent factor in our Imperial greatness might have long remained in abeyance had not the Transvaal crisis intervened to show the world that not only could England enforce her will in this part of the world with success, so far as the Transvaal was concerned, but also that not even the greatest of the military Powers of Continental Europe could effectively say her nay.

Reverting to the details of the strategical situation in South Africa itself, there is really not much to be said which cannot be readily comprehended by, if, indeed, it is not obvious to, the average plain man of ordinary intelligence, with the aid of maps, in

Photo THE DE BEERS SHAFTHEAD AT KIMBERLEY. Edwardes.
Used as a Military Signalling Station.

Photo CANADIAN INFANTRY. Navy and Army.

Maj.-Gen. Sir W. P. SYMONS, K.C.B.

Gen. Sir G. WHITE, V.C., G.C.B.

Maj.-Gen. Sir C. E. CLERY, K.C.B.

Lt.-Col. Sir H. S. RAWLINSON, Bart.

Lt. Gen. LORD METHUEN, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G.

Lt.-Gen. Sir F. W. F. FORESTIER WALKER, K.C.B.

Maj.-Gen. Sir W. F. GATACRE, K.C.B.

Col. R. S. S. BADEN POWELL.

Photos—Gregory, Elliott and Fry, Window and Grove, Cumming, Whitlock Bros., Guthrie, etc.

Photo LIGHT CAVALRY. Cumming.
Hussars on the March at Home.

which the railway lines and principal towns are clearly shown. There is no deep professional problem involved, there are no real complexities calculated to puzzle even the casual reader. Still, this record would not be complete without a slight review of these strategical points, which shall be studiously made as brief and free from technicalities as is possible.

Allusion has already been made to the wedge of Natal which runs to a point at Charlestown, and has a portion of the Transvaal on its eastern side, and the Orange Free State bordering it to the west. The position is one of mixed strength and weakness. At the apex of the isosceles triangle is Laing's Nek, which, although its flank can be turned, is a point of considerable defensive value, one of which, moreover, the Boers know every detail. The passes of the Drakensberg leading into the Free State can afford shelter to thousands of an enemy wishing to approach from that quarter without giving more than a day's notice of a dash upon Ladysmith. On the east the Buffalo River, with Utrecht and Vryheid as points of concentration for a subsidiary line of invasion, necessi-

Photo THE RIFLE BRIGADE Elliott and Fry
Officers 2nd Battalion.

Photo A BONE OF CONTENTION. Temple.
The Harbour, Delagoa Bay.

tate the most careful watching, lest at an unguarded moment a mobile enemy should make a clever onslaught from this quarter, as well as from the west and north, on the camp at Ladysmith. How these simple facts have been illustrated in actual practice will soon be demonstrated by the record of actual happenings in what is technically known as "the northern salient of Natal."

Leaving Natal to take care of itself—as it has shown itself extremely capable of doing—we travel round to Aliwal North, which is not of any very serious strategical importance in the present instance, although it might well be so had the Orange Free State and the Transvaal changed places. The Boer tactics at this point have been mainly of the destructive order, a system of fighting which is of a two-edged description, since it is obvious that demolitions retard an advance as well as invasion, and sometimes, where the facilities for repairing damage are possessed by the invaders, to an even greater degree.

Travelling round the border, we come to Kimberley, of which the Boers have made much as an objective. but which is really of very small strategical significance. There are ample means of defence in the great *débris* heaps which are the natural results of the early mining operations, and the country in the neighbourhood is merely of the rolling veldt variety, over which attack is difficult, and, where anything like a decent defence is set up, extremely unprofitable. Again, with the exception of such gloomy satisfaction as might be derived from blowing up the diamond mines, the possession of

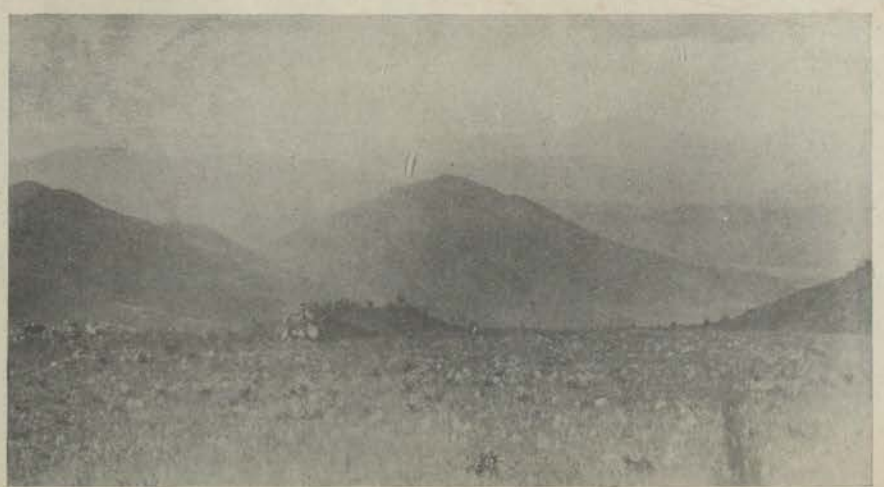


Photo KOMATI POORT. Edwardes.
On the Portuguese Border.

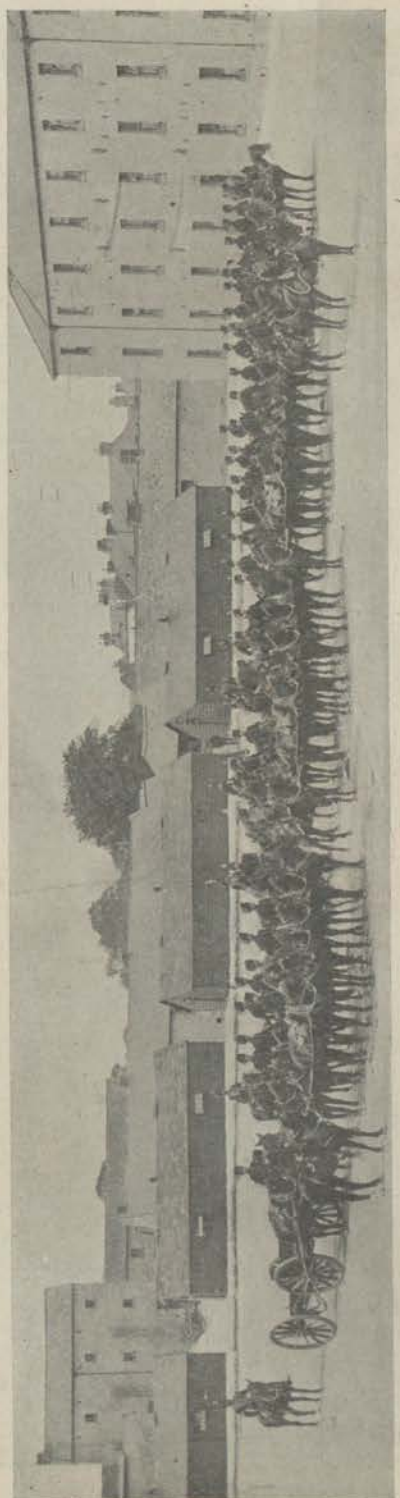
Kimberley indicates no real advantage to anyone, certainly not from the military standpoint.

The Orange River Station, which marks the approximation railway between Cape Town and Buluwayo to the south-western border of the Orange Free State, is of more serious importance owing partly to the existence of a railway bridge over the Orange River, the reconstruction of which, if demolished, would be a serious matter, and partly to the fact that the physical geography of the position is of a very marked order and greatly favours the stoppage of any Boer eruption in this direction. From the first the value of the position was recognised, and every effort was made to render any Boer attempt to break the cordon at this point more trouble than it was worth.

Northward of Kimberley come Vryburg and Mafeking in succession, the first a place now of no importance, with but two or three thousand inhabitants, which fell into the hands of the Boers at a very early stage of the war, the second an important base of observation strongly garrisoned at the commencement of the war by Colonel Baden-Powell's force of colonial levies, and since exposed to a vigorous siege by the commando under Cronje, on which it succeeded in inflicting some very shrewd blows.

Yet further north, strategy becomes somewhat vague when we contemplate the vast expanse of Rhodesia and its rather obscure resources, both as regards men and capacity for undertaking any more than its own defence against a native rising. Yet, Rhodesia is really of enormous importance in connection with any trouble connected with the Transvaal, since from it an attack can be made which, with other things to occupy them, the Boers might find it extremely difficult to repel. The history of the war will show, in due course, how far this estimate is justified.

Turning to the Boer Republics we find a much more complex strategical situation into the details of which it would be impossible to enter without explanations of a very intricate and technical character. Most of the broad points will be found illustrated



GALLOPING GUNS.
The Royal Horse Artillery.

Photo Charleton.

Photo SCOTTISH RIFLES. Knight.
Extended for Attack.

in the narrative covering the first fortnight after the declaration of war. But it may be briefly said that, although the moral support of the Orange Free State was worth much to the Transvaal, and the accession of armed strength was not inconsiderable, the strategical weakness involved was much greater than is superficially apparent, a fact which will be illustrated with striking clearness when Sir Redvers Buller's force is shown converging upon its two main objectives.

Photo AWAITING ORDERS. Knight.
The 12th Royal Lancers.

Chapter IV.
War.

The manner in which Great Britain and the Boer Republics came to actual blows over the Uitlander question needs no careful scrutiny here. It will satisfy all the requirements of this brief sketch if we briefly recall the fact that, under the pretext of being irritated by the massing of British troops on their frontier, the Boers, conveniently blind to their own openly proclaimed preparations for war, issued an absurd "Ultimatum" to this country calling upon us to retire in various ways from our positions, military, moral, and political, or take the consequences. To this there could be but one rejoinder, namely, that Great Britain regretted that such a demand should be made by the Transvaal and that, as for answer, there was none. The forty-eight hours time-limit allowed by the South African Republic having expired on the afternoon of October 11, a state of war automatically came into existence between the two countries in question, and a few hours later there was included in it, by its own foolish act, the Orange Free State.

From an Old Print.

A HOTTENTOT LADY.

From a Book of Travels dated 1790.

From an Old Print.

A MALE HOTTENTOT.

In Full Court Dress.

Before this definite condition of affairs had been arrived at, certain momentous measures had been adopted in England, which must be duly recorded here in order that the subsequent trend of events may be duly appreciated. In the first place, on October 7 Her Majesty the Queen had issued the two proclamations necessary for retaining the services of time-expired men with the Colours, and for calling out a portion of the First Class Army Reserve. As the natural sequel to these Proclamations, Army orders were issued embodying instructions as to the sections of the Reserve which would be required to rejoin, and notifying the

mobilisation of a Field Force for South Africa. The regiments, the reservists of which were to be called up, were named, the last date on which they would be expected to rejoin was mentioned, and simultaneously a list was issued from the War Office giving the names of the officers who had been selected to fill staff appointments in the Field Force. From this list it was apparent that the force was to consist of an Army Corps of three divisions, with line of communication troops, and a cavalry division, in all not very far short of 50,000 men. The General and Commander-in-Chief in South Africa was to be General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., commanding the Aldershot district, with Major-General Sir Archibald Hunter as Chief of the Staff. The infantry divisions were to be commanded by Lieutenant-General Lord Methuen, Lieut.-General Sir Francis Clery, and Lieut.-General Sir William Gatacre; the Line of Communication troops by Lieutenant-General Sir F. Forestier-Walker; and the cavalry division by Lieut.-General J. D. P. French. In addition to the above organisation it was notified that the separate command of the Field Force in Natal was to be held by Lieutenant-General Sir George White, with Lieut.-General Sir W. P. Symons under him in command of an infantry division, and a cavalry brigade under command of Major-Gen. Brocklehurst.

The calling up of the Reserves commenced on the 9th, and lasted until the 17th October, and in the included nine days, out of a total of 25,000 Reservists, nearly 22,000 responded to the call and were passed as medically fit. The result was regarded as eminently satisfactory, and a striking proof of the excellence of the arrangements made for receiving the Reservists and passing them to their corps was exhibited in the fact that three days after the expiration of the mobilisation period the embarkation of this very considerable force was begun.

It is impossible here to describe in detail the mobilisation and embarkation of this, the largest force which any Power has ever sent over seas at one time. But those whose recollections are clouded with the enormous figures which are used so freely in connection with the movements, real or imaginary, of Continental Armies, are recommended to study the narrative of this splendid performance by the light of one or two simple facts. One of these is that between setting in motion an Army Corps which is kept nearly at war strength in its own district, and having to mobilise a "scratch" Corps composed of regiments with depôts all over the country there is a serious difference. But the difference is not nearly so great as that between moving a great body of troops over a land frontier and sending it over seas. In the latter case it is only a great maritime nation with quite extraordinary resources that can rise to the occasion. Some idea of the magnitude of the problem involved may be gathered from the fact that to send this Army Corps and Cavalry Division of Sir Redvers Buller's to the Cape necessitated taking up transports aggregating near 350,000 tons!

Parliament having reassembled on

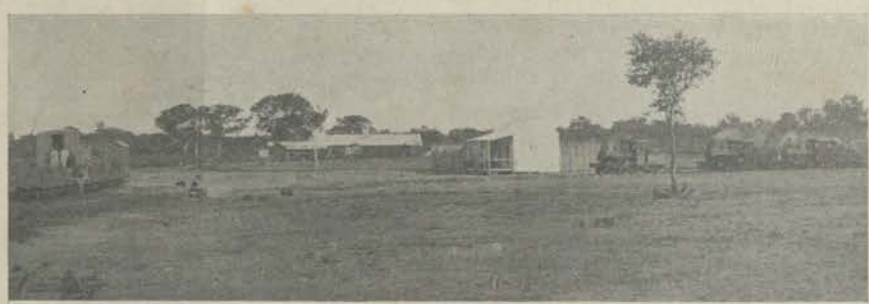


Photo Temple.

NEAR MAFEKING.
View on the Cape to Cairo Railway.

Photo

A FIRST-RATE MIXTURE.
Victoria Mounted Rifles, New South Wales Lancers, South Australian Detachment.

Gregory

Maj.-Gen. Hon. N. G. LYTTELTON, C.B.

Maj.-Gen. Sir H. E. COLVILF, K.C.M.G., C.B.

Maj.-Gen. Sir A. HUNTER, K.C.B.

Maj.-Gen. A. FITZROY HART, C.B.

Maj.-Gen. J. P. BRABAZON, C.B.

Maj.-Gen. A. G. WAUCHOPE, C.B., C.M.G.

Col. J. F. BROCKLEHURST, M.V.O.

Maj.-Gen. G. BARTON, C.B.

Photos—Elliott and Fry, C. Knight, Lekegion, and Bassano.

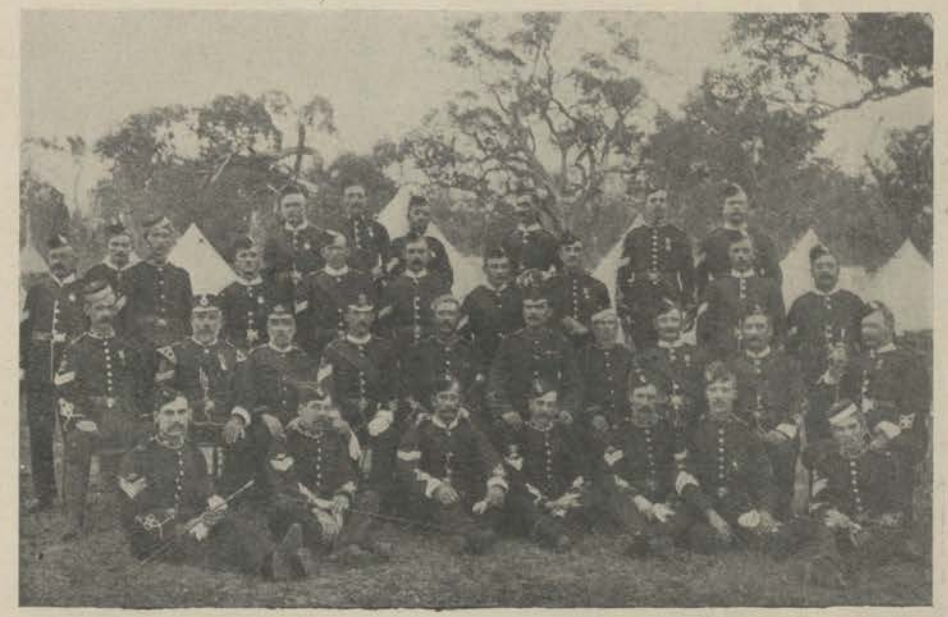


Photo WESTERN AUSTRALIANS. "Navy and Army.
Warrant and N.C. Officers, Local Defence Forces.

October 17 for the purpose of providing supplies, the sum of ten millions was asked for and voted with, practically speaking, no opposition. Subsequently the interesting announcement was made that the Queen was about to issue a Proclamation embodying a portion of the Militia and calling out the Militia Reserves. This measure was the natural corollary of the mobilisation and despatch of a field force of sufficient size to seriously denude home and Mediterranean garrisons. By the third week in October, then, Great Britain had some 20,000 regular troops already in South Africa, between 40,000 and 50,000 more either embarked, or ready for embarkation, and arrange-

Photo NEW ZEALAND CADETS. "Navy and Army."
College Company, Wellington Rifle Battalion.

Photo A FORGOTTEN BATTLEFIELD. "Navy and Army."
The Field of Boomplatz.

ments made for filling up the vacant places without asking for more recruits. The War Office had been subjected to a severe strain, but had withstood it nobly, and it is no exaggeration to say that no other existing war office in Europe could have faced a similar emergency equally well.

In yet another direction were these preparations for war on the part of Great Britain uniquely impressive. No sooner did a struggle with the Transvaal become probable than from all quarters of the world there came pouring in offers of help from the British Colonies, offers which sometimes almost partook of the nature of passionate entreaty, to be allowed to join the Mother Country in enforcing her just demands. Queensland was one of the first, if not actually the first, to offer a definite contingent, but there was not much to choose between these sturdy offshoots of the parent stock in the matter of willingness to place their stalwart sons, fully armed and equipped, at the disposal of the Imperial Government.

So frank and generous were the tenders of assistance from the Colonies that the Government was in danger of being literally embarrassed by them. Accordingly it returned a general answer intimating that it deeply appreciated the magnificent loyalty and good feeling which prompted these noble offers, and was prepared to accept one unit from each colony, treating it after debarkation as for the time being an integral part of the Imperial forces both in the matter of pay and pensions for casualties. Two units were accepted from Queensland in view of her early offer, and four were asked for from Canada. The latter being eager and able to supply forty such units at the very least, was naturally disappointed, but none the less energetically set about selecting a *corps d'élite* with another in readiness should circumstances permit its employment. In fine, glorious enthusiasm was exhibited, and our appreciation of it was manifested to a striking degree by the grand "send-off" accorded to the squadron of the New South Wales Lancers, which had been training at Aldershot, and was overjoyed at being allowed to fight side by side with the Imperial Cavalry.

Chapter V.

The Roar of Battle.

The expiration of the time limit allowed in the Boer "Ultimatum" found both sides in a very forward state of preparation as regards not only mobilisation, but also the distribution of the forces already available for immediate service. Giving courteous precedence to our enemies, we find that on October 11 the Orange Free State, which had definitely thrown in its lot with the Transvaal, had sent a considerable force in the direction of its eastern border with a view to pouring through the passes of the Drakensberg when opportunity should offer for co-operation with the forces of the sister Republic. Another commando had been sent towards Kimberley, while further forces must, even at this stage, have been in motion in the direction of Aliwal North. In the Transvaal still greater energy had been displayed in pushing forward the preparations for an advance into Natal. The bulk of the available forces were concentrated first at Volksrust, which is just across the old Transvaal border —of which, perhaps, some "rectification" may become necessary — but there were also large commandoes at Utrecht and Vryheid within easy distance of the Buffalo River. On the Portuguese border a force was posted at Komati Poort, and on the west a commando of at least 3,000 men was sent to operate under General Cronje against Mafeking in particular, and generally to break up the railway line between that place and Kimberley.

On our side the state of preparedness was as complete as foreknowledge and skill could make it, notwithstanding a marked numerical inferiority. Happily the Indian Contingent had arrived, and Sir George White was already at Ladysmith with a clear grasp of the situation and a very fine body of troops wherewith to cope with it. All told, there were now in Natal some 15,000 fighting men of excellent quality, including a corps of Imperial Light Horse raised by Colonel Scott Chisholme, who had just given up command of the 5th Lancers, and who afterwards met his death when gallantly leading his men into action at the battle of Elandslaagte. The main disposition of the British force was a compact and simple one. Durban and Pietermaritzburg being rendered secure from any risk of a

Photo BATTLEFIELD OF MAJUBA HILL. Wilson.
The Military Monuments are on the right centre.

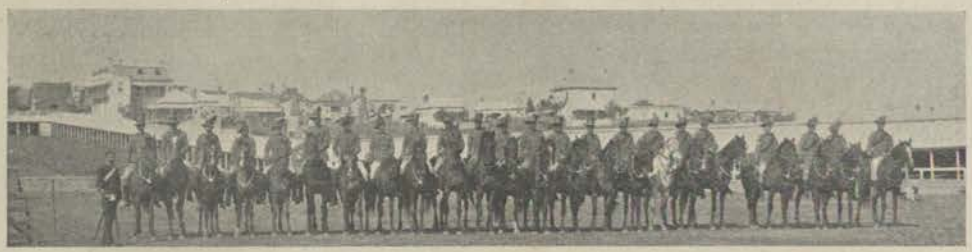


Photo THE FIRST TO VOLUNTEER. Poulsen
Queensland Mounted Infantry.

raid, the principal concentration was at Ladysmith, under Sir George White. Assuming a Boer advance into Natal either from the north or the west, it was intended that this should be the main barrier, and certainly no finer strategical position in the circumstances could be imagined. An important point in favour of Ladysmith is that the country all round it is flat, and, consequently, offers no facilities for Boer tactics. But Ladysmith of itself could not expect to stem a Boer irruption, more especially having regard to the possibility of a flank movement from Utrecht and Vryheid on the coalfields and township of Dundee. Accordingly, some thirty-five miles north-east of Ladysmith, at Cragside Farm, between Glencoe Junction and Dundee, a large camp had been established under Sir W. P. Symons, consisting of artillery, a regiment of cavalry (18th Hussars), and three battalions of infantry (1st Leicestershire, 1st King's Royal Rifle Corps, and 2nd Dublin Fusiliers). The position was a sound one, inasmuch as it prevented any surprise from the direction of the Buffalo River. But it was also considerably exposed, since the country to the east especially, was hilly, and there were useful—speaking from a hostile standpoint—eminences from where could be brought to bear upon the camp, which, properly served, could have caused serious damage and confusion before being silenced.

On the southern border Kimberley was in a state of complete preparedness, thanks to a timely movement of garrison artillery, who had lost no time in converting the great *débris* heaps into formidable fortifications. To the west, Colonel Baden-Powell and his rough but ready corps, together with details of British South Africa Police and willing volunteers, were "spoiling for a fight," for which, as will be seen, they had now but a few short hours to wait.

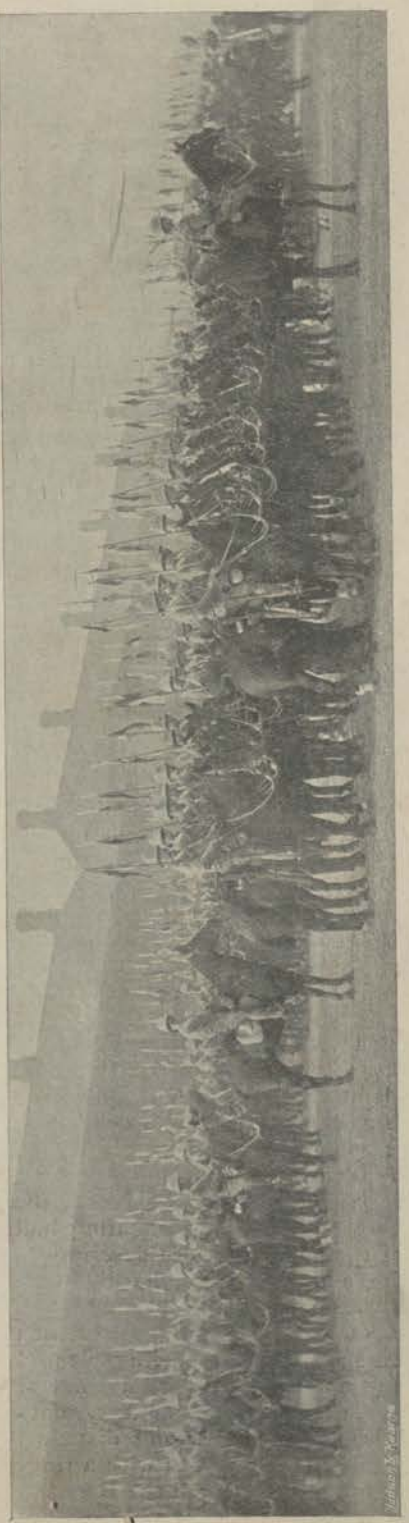
The first real act of war was that of the Orange Free State, which, almost immediately on the expiration of the limit, seized a train belonging to the Natal Railway Company at the Free State border, and thereby commenced hostilities. But the first shot was fired at Kraiipan, on the western border, some forty miles south of Mafeking. An armoured train, bringing a couple of guns up from Vryburg, fell into a trap at this point, being derailed and forthwith made an artillery target by a party of Boers who had torn up the line and retired to some distance with their guns. The party, a mere handful of fifteen Colonial troopers under Lieutenant Nesbitt, responded bravely, but, of course, to no purpose. After a brief interval the fire of the defence was silenced, and the Boers rode in and made prisoners of the party.

Mafeking being now isolated, was vigorously invested by the Boers, who, however, on the 14th suffered a smart reverse at the hands of the garrison, and another and more serious one some days later.

Kimberley, too, was promptly isolated and actively threatened by a large force of Free State Boers especially eager, it would seem, to capture Mr. Rhodes, who some days before the "Ultimatum" had hurried up to "face the music" at this important point.

Turning to Natal, the situation here did not develop till October 19, when a simultaneous movement of the Boer forces took place from the east, north, and west. The object of this movement was not at the time clearly understood by us, but was abundantly evident on the following day, and it is convenient to anticipate a brief description of it here. The idea was that the northern column, which was advancing from Ingangani by way of Hatting's Spruit, should co-operate with the Utrecht and Vryheid commandoes in a converging attack on the Glencoe camp. In order to prevent General Sir George White from coming to the assistance of Sir W. P. Symons a force of about 1,200 Boers was despatched across the Biggarsberg range to cut the railway communication between Ladysmith and Glencoe at Elandslaagte. It was further arranged that on the Friday appointed for the attack on Glencoe the Free State Boers, who had debouched from the passes of the Drakensberg, should threaten Ladysmith in sufficient force to keep Sir George White fully occupied. Of the cleverness of this plan there can be no sort of question, but it was liable to one grave, and, as it proved, disastrous defect. The success of converging columns depends almost entirely upon the maintenance of communication between them such as will enable them to reach their objective simultaneously. In this case two-thirds of the plan was successfully carried out. The railway communication between Ladysmith and Glencoe was duly cut, Sir George White's force at Ladysmith was duly held, but the Northern column from Ingangani was unduly late in its arrival on the scene of the proposed attack on Glencoe. It may well have been that even if the plan had been completely executed Glencoe would have been able to withstand the combined shock. But, as it was, the attack was imperfectly delivered, and a very smart blow was inflicted on the Boer forces accordingly.

At streak of dawn on Friday, October 20, the Glencoe camp was called to arms. On the east a battery of five Boer guns had been established on a



THE 12th ROYAL LANCERS.
In Field Kit, awaiting Inspection.

Photo, Cumming.

Photo BEIRA. Temple.

The Future Port of Rhodesia.

commanding eminence, and was shelling the camp. It was further revealed that, besides these guns, there were four or five thousand Boers posted in an almost inaccessible position. The artillery fire of the Boers was ineffective, as they were firing unfused shells which, to all intents and purposes, acted merely as solid shot and did no damage. Our own artillery came swiftly into action, and poured shells that did burst with deadly effect upon the Boer position. Meanwhile, the infantry were held in readiness for the attack, while on the right the fire of Maxims helped that of the field-guns, and the 18th Hussars and Mounted Infantry commenced a *détour* with a view to eventually dropping upon the Boer line of retreat. The practice made by our guns was magnificent, and in a very short time the Boer artillery was completely silenced. The 1st King's Royal Rifle Corps, the 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers now advanced to the attack, and spreading themselves in skirmishing order along lower slopes of the hill they commenced a steady advance, which had only reached to within 600 yards of the top of the hill at ten o'clock. The fighting had been of the most stubborn description, and the advance could hardly have been successful had it not been for the perfect shooting of the guns, which dropped shell after shell with splendid accuracy among the brave defenders. Assisted in this way the infantry, having arrived within charging distance, simply rushed the position with a ringing cheer, and scattered the Boers in a flight which the cavalry and a battery of artillery, moved up for the purpose, soon converted into a rout. Meanwhile the 1st Leicestershire and a field battery successfully held in check the northern Boer column, the head of which had been seen advancing from Hatting's Spruit.

Such was the action officially known as the Battle of Dundee, which has been admitted on all sides, even by jaundiced Continental critics, to be worthy of the best traditions of the British Army. A shrewd blow had been inflicted on the Boer forces, the development of their plan of campaign had received a serious check, and the moral effect of their realisation of the fighting value of the British soldier was, of course, unquestionably very great. But the victory had been won at a terrible cost. The able commander of the force, General Sir W. P. Symons, himself lay mortally wounded, Colonel Sherston, A.A.G., Colonel Gunning, 1st K.R.R.C., and eight other officers and thirty-three non-commissioned officers and men were killed, and nearly 200 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men wounded. The command of the force thereupon devolved upon Brigadier-General Yule, who, by the aid of a subsidiary telegraph wire running *viâ* Greytown, was able to report the battle the same afternoon to Sir George White.

The next morning General Sir George White having received information of the descent of the Boers on the railway line at Elandslaagte determined, if possible, to oust them and re-establish railway communication with Glencoe. Accordingly he de-

Photo

A FIELD BATTERY IN ACTION.

Charleton

Photo THE CAPE TO CAIRO LINE. Temple.
Railway Construction beyond Mafeking.

spatched General French with a force which was subsequently reinforced to eleven squadrons of cavalry, two batteries of artillery, and one complete and two half battalions of infantry to effect this object. Sir George White himself accompanied the force as a spectator, but with generous self-effacement left the direction of the fight in the hands of General French. The engagement which followed was of the hottest character. The Boers, to the number of some 1,200, were exceedingly well posted, and the two guns which they had with them were, until silenced, served with excellent effect. But the main resistance came from the Boer rifles, which made terrible havoc among our advancing infantry. The infantry attack was carried out by the Devons and half battalions of the 1st Manchesters and 2nd Gordon Highlanders. It was delivered with the most brilliant gallantry and driven home under conditions of great spectacular impressiveness. Rain was falling in torrents, and against the dark thunder-clouds the flashes of musketry and the gleam of bayonets showed brightly. Though the fire was terrible and the men, to quote the vivid description of the *Times* correspondent, sprang up to fall like rabbits, the breastwork behind which the Boers had so stubbornly held the position was finally won. Some of the Boers surrendered and many were taken prisoners, while through those who fled in the gathering darkness—for the action was not concluded until 6 p.m.—the cavalry charged thrice with deadly effect.

Our losses on this occasion were as heavy as at Glencoe. Five officers and thirty-seven non-commissioned officers and men were killed, and over 200 officers, non-commissioned officers and men were wounded. The heaviest loss was that sustained by the 2nd Gordon Highlanders, who lost four officers killed and nine wounded, and twenty non-commissioned officers and men killed, seventy-seven wounded, and eight missing. Among the officers killed was Colonel Scott Chisholme, who had recently given up the command of the 5th Lancers, and formed in Natal the Imperial Light Horse.

Notwithstanding these two striking little victories, the British military position in Natal was still far from secure. It now transpired that the railway communication between Ladysmith and Glencoe had not only been interrupted at Elandslaagte, but had been permanently cut by the destruction of the long lattice girder bridge at Waschbank. This meant, for the time being, the complete isolation of the Glencoe camp. The position of the latter, with so many Boer forces operating in the neighbourhood, and an evident anxiety on the part of these to concentrate and strike a severe blow, had

become somewhat precarious. Nor was there now the same need as had formerly existed for an advanced post at this point, since already punishment had been inflicted on the Utrecht and Vryheid commandoes, and the general Boer plan of operations had been materially checked and confused. Accordingly it was decided that General Yule's force should effect a junction with that of Sir George White at Ladysmith. In this movement it was necessary to leave the wounded at Dundee, but no apprehension was felt as to their safety since among them were many Boer prisoners, who were being cared for by our military surgeons equally with our own officers and men.

In pursuance of the idea of effecting a junction with Sir George White, General Yule moved out of his position and on the evening of October 23 had camped about sixteen miles south of Dundee. The line of withdrawal was by the Helpmakaar road, Beith, and the Waschbank and Sunday River valleys. In the meantime General White had received information showing that the Boers had established themselves in considerable force in an exceedingly strong position west of the main road leading from Ladysmith to Dundee. Being at the same time apprised of General Yule's withdrawal Sir George White deemed it necessary to hold this force in check. He therefore moved out on October 21 in some strength to cover the movement of General Yule's column. The enemy was discovered at Rietfontein Farm, about seven miles out of Ladysmith, and, as soon as he saw preparations being made against him, opened fire with one gun with great accuracy. This gun was promptly silenced by our artillery, and our troops were ordered to occupy a strong ridge parallel to the enemy's position, but nearer to the road. Sir George White wisely refrained from any comprehensive attack, but confined himself to harassing the enemy, and, to use his own words, hitting him hard enough to prevent his taking action against General Yule's column. The blow, however, was sufficiently hard to send numbers of the enemy flying in a westerly direction. The junction with General Yule was subsequently effected.

The satisfaction, however, which was felt on all sides at the safe arrival of the force from Glencoe was marred by two misfortunes. The sad news now arrived of the death at

Photo NEAR VRYBURG, Edwardes.
Crossing the Schoonspruit.

Photo PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS. Temple.
Part of the Garrison of Beira.

Dundee of the gallant and able General Sir W. P. Symons, and also the confirmation of the reported capture of a squadron of the 18th Hussars by the Boers at the action at Glencoe. It appears that the cavalry pursuit which followed the successful infantry attack was pushed too far, and the squadron, with the commanding officer, a major, and the adjutant of the 18th Hussars, and some officers of the Dublin Fusiliers serving as mounted infantry, were isolated and taken prisoners.

While the concentrated force, now some 12,000 strong, was resting at Ladysmith, preparatory to once more trying conclusions with the Boers, who were now massing in front of Sir George White's position, a brilliant sortie was made from Kimberley and a smart blow inflicted on the investing Boers. After a brisk fight, in which the Kimberley Volunteers distinguished themselves, the Loyal North Lancashires charged and cleared a strongly held kopje at the point of the bayonet in first-rate British style.

* * * * *

At this stage we must leave the development of what already bids fair to be one of the most momentous struggles that has ever agitated the military and political surface of the world. Relatively small as were the forces engaged in the initial phases of this conflict, there are possibilities involved which it would be awful to contemplate were not Great Britain what she is, a nation to whom Empire represents far more than mere territorial aggrandisement, or the exaltation of an already mighty name. A task is still before us, a grievous, perhaps a terrible task, but it is one which we Englishmen now realise simply must be accomplished, whatever the effort required to bring it to a definitely satisfactory conclusion. Blood and treasure may yet have to be spilt and spent, the sound of lamentation for dear lives sacrificed for Queen and country may continue to be heard in the land. But for us there must be no faltering, no looking back, no puny regrets for what might have been had England followed the vicious creed of those who seek to cloud by sickly sentimentalism the arguments of the statesman and the convictions of the true patriot. Fighting for fighting's sake is not, never has been, God grant it never will be, England's business. But we have had forced on us a situation to which perhaps no written words can be more appropriately applied than a modified paraphrase of the great Lord Dalhousie's speech at the commencement of the second Sikh war, "Unwarned by precedent, uninfluenced by example, the Boer nation has called for war, and, by Heavens, Sirs, they shall have it with a vengeance!"

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